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JANUARY 6 - 12, 2011

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BY PATRICK DUFFY

GRANITE VIEWS

Airport anniversary



Last week, on Jan. 1, 2011, we marked the 17th anniversary of the opening of the "new" terminal of the Manchester Airport, now known as Manchester-Boston Regional

Airport.

The gala held at the Manchester Airport on that New Year's Eve was a grand affair with three bands and 2,000 in attendance. Just a few hours after we welcomed in the new year of 1994, the first flight took off from our new airport. Manchester Airport had the distinction of being the only airport in recent memory in the United States which was built on time and on budget.

For all of us in New Hampshire, as well as those in neighboring states, the expanded Manchester Airport meant the convenience of being able to fly in and out of Manchester on major airlines (such as one we all know as "Grab your bag, you're on!"), connecting with destinations throughout the country and beyond. The expanded airport has resulted in major contributions to our economy, including the growth of business and industry in our region and state. We now have two minor-league sports teams: the Manchester Monarchs hockey franchise, and Fisher Cats baseball, along with MerchantsAuto.com Stadium. The Verizon Wireless Arena, home of the Monarchs, is host to many events, drawing thousands to our city and state, fueling our sports and entertainment network. Not only does this network provide local employment opportunities, it creates additional business opportunities.

I recently had an opportunity to do a walk-through of the terminal, taking a mental inventory and comparing the terminal today to that of Jan. 1, 1994. Of note, it appears that 17 years later, the Milltown Grill is the sole remaining original terminal restaurant.

Another notable change at our airport certainly is the post-9/11 presence of the security personnel with the TSA, now a fact of life throughout our country, albeit with much consternation and the frustration of many. I'll have more on this topic at a later date.

A look out from the terminal and across the airfield brings into focus the UPS and Fed Ex terminals, both of which have a predominant role in our airport, along with Wiggins Airways, which partners with both.

As I have been invited to lend a periodic voice to this paper, I look forward to sharing thoughts about issues relating not just to the airport but to our community in general. Happy New Year!

Patrick Duffy served as the chairman of Manchester Airport Authority from 1990 to 2000. He is a retired Colonel, U.S. Air Force.

Good news from Hippo Publisher Jody Reese: A recent Wall Street Journal article reported a trend of large companies' gearing up to spend in the coming year — and, yes, even hire new staff. Large retailers also discovered that discounting could harm business and pulled back on much of that this holiday season, leading to higher profits. Small business owners too need to watch these trends and lay off the discounts, especially the half-price gift certificates trend.

12 Look good, feel great!

It's our annual four-week series on getting healthy in body and mind for the new year. This week — instead of the standard weight-loss-type resolutions, we take a look at how to accomplish improvements that will get you feeling great (which is, as we all know, the first step to looking great). Learn how to have more energy, make smarter wardrobe choices, get in good financial health and more.

Also on the cover: Looking for nightlife fun? We have two stories of ongoing events — dueling pianos at Boynton's and comedy at the Shaskeen. Those start on page 52, and then check out our regular Music This Week listings starting on page 55.

The **monster trucks** are coming! This Friday and Saturday at the Verizon Wireless Arena it's the Monster Jam Thunder Nationals. We talk to the driver of the Iron Man truck on page 45.



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NEWS & NOTES

News in Brief

• **NH House hires a lawyer:** Edward Mosca was recently hired as legal counsel for the state House of Representatives. The Manchester resident has been in private practice since 1993 and has focused on constitutional law. Mosca, who will serve as legal counsel on a part-time basis due to the state budget situation, has written two law reviews on the state Supreme Court's education funding decisions, according to a House press release. Mosca, who currently serves on the Manchester Board of Registrars, graduated from the Northeastern School of Law and earned an MBA from Boston University and a bachelor's degree from Georgetown University.

• **Suncook River survey sought:** Officials are still working to deal with the Suncook River, which saw its path change following flooding about four years ago. The state Department of Environmental Services issued requests for qualifications (RFQs) for geophysical surveys, design and permitting necessary to protect state and municipal infrastructure on the Suncook River in Epsom. The work will be funded entirely by a federal grant matched by existing state expenditures, according to a DES press release. As the river has adjusted to its new course, there has been erosion on the river and its tributaries, which present con-

tinued flooding risks to adjacent areas, the release said. A geophysical survey would provide information on the area's geology to guide the design of structures to protect nearby infrastructure. It would also help officials understand the long-term stability of the river.

• **Communities are dealing with pollution:** The state Department of Environmental Services awarded \$1,079,000 to 15 New Hampshire communities and non-profit organizations to address pollution problems caused by runoff. The projects are under way and typically take two to three years to be completed, according to a DES press release. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency provides DES with funding each year to restore and protect the state's water resources that are affected by polluted runoff. This includes restoring water bodies that have become too polluted to support uses, such as fishing, swimming or boating. Projects last year ranged in cost from \$1,200 to \$200,000. Call Jeff Marcoux at 271-8862.

• **Copeland buys Millyard Communications:** Peterborough resident Heidi Copeland, who has been an associate publisher of Business NH Magazine for the past six years, recently purchased Millyard Communications, which publishes Business NH Magazine and produces the Made in NH Try It and Buy It Expo. Sean Mahoney,

who unsuccessfully ran for the Republican nomination for the state's 1st District seat last year, had owned the company. The terms of the transaction were not disclosed, according to a company press release. "I am looking forward toward building upon the growth Millyard has experienced over the past several years," Copeland said in the release. "The talented editorial, sales and events professionals assembled at Millyard are the company's best assets and I look forward to building the business with them." In a statement, Mahoney wished Copeland well, saying she has "the skills, leadership and drive to bring the magazine to the next level...."

• **Walmart recalls electric heaters:** Walmart is voluntarily recalling some electric heaters in cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission amid reports of malfunction, which could result in overheating, smoking, burning, melting and fire, according to a state press release. The state Department of Health and Human Services is asking residents to have their heaters identified and to return them to Walmart for a refund. The store has received 21 reports of incidents, 11 of which involved property damage beyond just the heater. Four incidents resulted in injuries, the release said. The recall involves Flow Pro, Airtech, Aloha Breeze and Comfort Essential 1,500-watt heaters. The heaters

are gray with a metal handle on top. The model number is 1013 and is located on the back panel. State officials are urging people to stop using the heaters immediately. Call Walmart at 800-925-6278 between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. Monday through Friday. Visit www.walmart.com. Visit www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prerel.html.

• **Federal funds for college planning group:** The NHHEAF Network Organizations' Center for College Planning received an \$850,000 grant from the federal Department of Education to encourage and support underrepresented populations including foster children, potential first-generation college students, minorities and financially needy students in the state. The Center was one of six programs to be awarded federal funds from the College Access Challenge Grant, which supports statewide outreach efforts for students and parents in New Hampshire planning for college, a NHHEAF press release said. The Center will use the money to create a website to allow students to obtain college planning resources and become eligible to receive rewards for their efforts in pursuit of higher education. The campaign will focus on opportunities and resources available at New Hampshire colleges for financially needy students and underrepresented populations through a variety of resources, including social media. Visit

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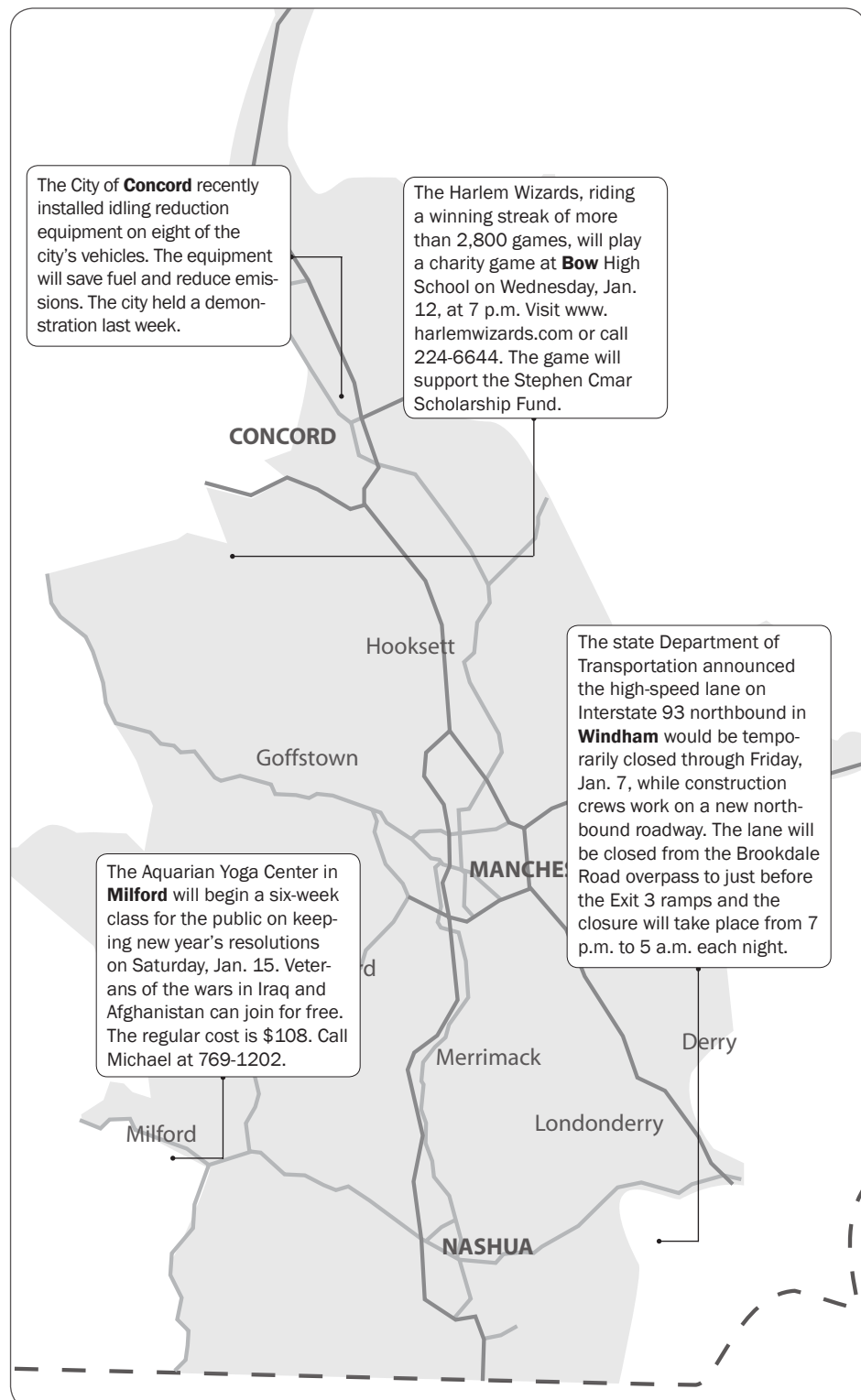
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• **Companies get job-training funds:** Five more companies received Job Training grants in December, Gov. John Lynch announced last month. The grants, which total \$87,000, will help train 228 employees in the state in new skills, according to a state press release. The grants are aimed at keeping jobs in the state by helping companies train workers in skills to compete in a changing economy, the release said. The Job Training Fund distributes as much as \$1 million annually in matching grants to allow companies to train employees. Beginning in January, the Fund will distribute \$2 million annually. Since the Fund was reinstated in 2007, more than 8,100 workers have received training and enhanced skills through the matching grant program. L3 Insight Technologies in Londonderry, Nantucket Beadboard Co. in Rochester, Haydon & Kerk Motion Solutions of Hollis, Teleflex Medical in Jaffrey and Knappe & Koester, Inc. of Keene received grants in this round. The Fund has distributed more than \$2.9 million in grants since it was reestablished, while companies have contributed more than \$5 million. Visit www.nhjobtrainingfund.org.

• **Website helps people chart energy use:** My Energy Plan (myenergyplan.net), a new website developed by UNH and Clean Air-Cool Planet, can help homeowners develop a customized energy plan to reduce household energy consumption. Clean Air-Cool Planet is a nonprofit, bipartisan, science-based organization dedicated to finding solutions to global warming. The free website has a number of tools for creating a plan for increasing energy and cost savings over time, according to a UNH press release. It helps people calculate energy use and suggests ways to decrease it. The site also features the Energy Project Connector, which searches all the federal, state and utility incentives available for home energy jobs in the state, as well as a list of contractors and energy auditors who can do the work, the release said. Users can log their progress in a personal online energy notebook. Starting in January, the My Energy Plan Video Challenge is aimed at getting New Hampshire residents to tell their energy plan stories in one- to four-minute videos. Videos will be accepted from Jan. 3 to February 28. Visit myenergyplan.net/videos.



The Give

\$225,000 was presented to Southern New Hampshire Services by Public Service of New Hampshire to help the organization's emergency fuel fund with the New Hampshire Neighbor Helping Neighbor program.

\$150,000 was recently obligated to the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests' Black Mountain campaign by the state Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

\$71,000 is being provided to 19 homeless shelters across the state by Citizens Bank Foundation.

\$35,000 was raised by the Nashua Pastoral Care Center's 19th annual Penny Picker Campaign, which provides basic necessities to families in need.

\$32,620 was raised in New Hampshire Audubon's recent fundraising "blitz."

\$25,000 was recently committed as a minimum donation to Susan G. Komen for the Cure by Company C, a Concord home furnishings designer.

\$11,345 was donated to the Salvation Army's holiday distribution program by Hudson T-Bones staff.

\$10,000 was awarded in a grant to More Than Wheels by the Bank of America Charitable Foundation.

\$7,500 was recently awarded in a grant to Court Appointed Special Advocates of New Hampshire from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation.

\$5,000 was donated to the New Hampshire Breast Cancer Coalition by Manchester Fire Fighters last month.

\$5,000 was awarded recently in a grant to the National Alliance on Mental Illness New Hampshire by the Lincoln Financial Foundation.

\$5,000 was awarded to the YMCA of Greater Manchester by JCPenney After-school to help the YMCA provide financial assistance to students who otherwise could not afford to join after-school programs.

\$5,000 was awarded this fall to Granite State Independent Living from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation to provide comprehensive housing and financial counseling services.

\$4,500 was donated to Manchester Community Music School by Hampshire First Bank this fall.

\$4,500 in total was donated to three organizations by Centrix Bank during the holiday season. The money was distributed to SHARE Outreach, the Greater Nashua Interfaith Hospitality Network and the Santa Fund.

\$3,556 and 10 quilts were recently donated by the Amoskeag Quilters Guild to Liberty House veterans.

\$3,400 was raised during the Greater Hudson Chamber of Commerce's annual holiday auction in December, to support St. Vincent de Paul Society.

\$3,000 was donated last month to The Way Home by St. Mary's Bank for pre-development costs of the organization's Laurel Street property in Manchester, which will provide supportive housing for homeless veterans.

\$2,000 was presented to Fairgrounds Elementary School in Nashua by ING under its Run For Something Better School Awards Program.

2,000 pounds of turkeys were donated by Bellwether Community Credit Union to New Horizons prior to Thanksgiving.

1 eight-foot-tall Tyrannosaurus Rex was donated to the Children's Museum of New Hampshire by the Edgewood Early Learning Centre in Portsmouth.

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Pilera manages property

The new property management software company Pilera allows managers to access property information and communicate with building occupants with a click of a mouse, saving managers hours each week.

"It just makes the property manager's job so much easier," said Ashish Patel, who opened Pilera in February. Patel opened an overarching company, Patelligence, about four years ago. Users pay a monthly rate to have Pilera at their disposal.

Managers can send announcements over the Internet to all tenants, a single floor or individual occupants. Instead of knocking on doors because plumbers need to shut off the water, a manager can use Pilera to deliver messages by phone or e-mail. It's also useful for notifying tenants when packages arrive in the mail. A snowplow driver could access the software to contact a tenant who needs to move his car, Patel said.

Pilera (www.pilera.com) has clients throughout New England and in New York and New Jersey. Clocktower Place and Pine Hill Gardens in Nashua use Pilera.

"It's going very well," Patel said, adding the company is managing nearly 2,000 units. Patel, who worked at Fidelity Investments for 14 years, said business was slow for Patelligence's other companies and he saw a void in the property management sector.

The software allows managers to reach tenants by searching their license plates. Pilera also offers features that allow apartment and condominium communities to create their own community websites. —Jeff Mucciarone

New office for Home Care Assistance

Lauren Robison experienced poor home health care in the case of her parents, so she

decided to enter the field herself and make a difference. She opened her own Home Care Assistance franchise.

"It was a really good fit," Robison said. "The pieces fell together for me."

Home Care Assistance recently opened a new office in Nashua at 99 Pine Hill Road. Robison, who has worked in the medical field for the past 20 years, also has a Bedford location. The international provider of non-medical, in-home care uses its Balanced Care Method, which is based on a study of centenarians in Okinawa, Japan, that allows the agency to focus on longevity and wellness while also providing care and support right in the home, Robison said in an e-mail.

The company, which focuses on maximizing independence, provides a number of services, such as help with daily activities, companionship, personal care services, homemaker-type services, light housekeeping, laundry, changing linens, cooking and transportation. It's been particularly busy so far. Home Care is primarily geared toward the elderly but it's not limited to that. Home Care offers 24/7 services.

"There's definitely a need for it, a market for it," Robison said.

Robison said she's going to center her marketing through Concord and east to the seacoast.

The company is well-known for its exclusive screening process in choosing caregivers, Robison said, adding the company also has a strong reputation for building a relationship with its clientele.

The company was started in California in 2002. It took Robison about four months to get her franchise up and running. The whole process from idea to fruition took her about six or seven months.

—Jeff Mucciarone

HIPPO POLITICS

Who's here?

Census shows growth and change in NH

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

Just over New Hampshire's southern border those Bay Staters appear to be in for an interesting and perhaps not entirely friendly redistricting process that would cost the state one of its 10 congressional seats. That's what the initial 2010 Census data suggests.

New Hampshire, on the other hand, doesn't have to worry about losing its political power in Washington. But the state will be in for some redistricting once the Census redistricting data is released probably in February or March. The Census data has to be distributed by April. That will undoubtedly get interesting and maybe nasty. Officials will have to apportion 400 districts for the state House of Representatives, as well as 24 more for the state Senate. But it's the House redistricting that could get dicey.

The redistricting process didn't go so well in 2002, with then-governor Jeanne Shaheen vetoing the work the Republican-led legislature had done. The state court system had to take over the task.

With Republicans holding veto-proof majorities in the state House and the state Senate, the GOP would seem to have an even stronger hold on the redistricting keys this time around.



Redistricting nationally

The federal government has an explicit process for redistricting congressional seats. The 435 seats are distributed one at a time. Redistricting is based on the federal mandate of "one person, one vote."

Say a congressional seat is worth 700,000 people, which is purely arbitrary: the government would first hand out 50 seats for each of the 50 states. Then it would hand out the 51st seat to the state with the greatest population: California. Then it would reduce California's population by 700,000 and give the 52nd seat to the next greatest population. It would work down the seats right to the 435th seat, which a decade ago went to North Carolina, which narrowly beat out Utah. That's a simplified version of the real thing, says Ken Johnson, senior demographer at the Carsey Institute at the University of New Hampshire.

Along with redistricting the state legislature, officials in New Hampshire will have to change the boundaries of the state's congressional districts slightly to account for any changes in the state's population. That could get feisty as politicians might just look to change districts in a way that benefits their political party.

The real fun

Things will get pretty interesting in New Hampshire when the state gets around to redistricting its 400 state House seats. The state has to have its redistricting plan in place in time for the 2012 election.

Unlike the federal government, the state doesn't have an explicit formula for redistricting. Johnson said it would be smart to develop a formula now, before the data come in, as a way to eliminate the inevitable political back and forth in a less defined system.

The state did pass legislation that would reduce some of the confrontation that comes with redistricting, but it's still likely to get contentious. The state allocates seats on a town-by-town basis, but that gets tricky as there are many small towns that wouldn't have enough people to garner a single seat. So officials would need to bundle together smaller towns, and how they bundle them will probably draw fire. It will get tricky to divvy up multiple seats in one community. Politicians could push to make more Republican communities or areas fit in one district, while others would push for more Democratic areas.

"Who decides who gets how many seats?" Johnson asked.

That's why Johnson said the state would be smart to create a set of rules now before things get contentious. Redistricting ended up in the court system last time around.

A regional look

The Census numbers are about in line with what demographers in the region expected. Migration slowed in recent years, which is not atypical.

The Census data suggest the entire New England region is growing more slowly than the rest of the country. New Hampshire, though, can take pride in that it has the fastest growth rate in the region at 6.5 percent during the past decade. The country grew by 9.7 percent, according to the Census data.

New England grew by 522,000 residents during the decade, bringing the regional population to 14,445,000 as of April 1. New England grew by 3.8 percent. New Hampshire, which now has a population of 1,316,470 people, grew by 6.5 percent, compared to Rhode Island, which saw its population increase by just 0.4 percent. Nearly all the population gain in the region was due to an excess of births over deaths, with 463,000 people accounted for that way. Many more people left New England for other destinations during the decade than moved here, Johnson said.

Those darned shifting demographics

Much has been made in recent years about the state's shifting demographics — a red state growing into a purple state into a seemingly more decidedly bluish state. The current makeup of the state's electorate contains just a slight blue hue now anyway, whereas just a couple years ago, it seemed the state was on its way to becoming Massachusetts north in terms of political makeup. Not so fast. The November election saw Republicans win in a big way.

Researchers say the state is still gradually trending to Democrats. The big swings to the left in 2006 and 2008 might have overblown the blueness of the state. The reality, analysts say, is that both parties can win here.

Dante Scala, professor of political science

at UNH, said last year the state still essentially breaks down to 30 percent Republicans, 30 percent Democrats and 40 percent Independents, which means the game is in the center.

"It hasn't changed to the point where Democrats have a huge advantage over Republicans," Andrew Smith, director of the UNH Survey Center, said in October. Smith has said, assuming parties turn out at the same rate, which did not happen in this past election, generic Democrats have a 3- to 4-percent advantage over a generic Republican.

Demographers at the UNH Survey Center project say New Hampshire will probably be more solidly blue by 2020. It's a slow process and with the state's growth slowing in recent years with the economic collapse, the shift has slowed even more. Johnson said as the economy picks up, the state's growth should as well.

The people moving into New Hampshire tend to be well-educated and they tend to earn moderate to high incomes. Better-educated people do tend to be more likely to vote for Democrats. So while growth has slowed, the demographic trends still suggest the state is becoming more Democratic.

Eventually losing a seat?

Of course, despite New Hampshire's rate being faster than the rest of the region, its growth is also slowing. That could have long-term implications, as demographer Peter Francese suggested in a Seacoast Online story last week. A continued population decline could eventually mean New Hampshire loses one of its two precious congressional seats.

Johnson wasn't sure the state was staring at the possibility of losing a seat. He said there would need to be a dramatic change for that to be a consideration 10 years from now.

"I don't see that second seat as at risk," Johnson said, adding New Hampshire's second congressional seat is probably well ahead of many other states.

There are probably many more states, namely Rhode Island in terms of proximity or perhaps even Maine, that stand at greater risk for losing a seat than New Hampshire.

Not old, but aging

Rather than the population growth slowing, Johnson said the real long-term concern is that the state's population is aging. The stereotype is that New Hampshire has a rather old population. That's not entirely true. The state actually has a large middle-aged, working-age population.

"One of the big concerns is that the older populations is going to grow quite dramatically," Johnson said. Right now, the state is about middle of the pack with regard to people older than 65. It has one of the largest percentages nationally of people in the working ages. "Right now, New Hampshire is at its peak."

A rapidly aging population could mean more demand on state services that are already stretched thin, Johnson said.

Maine does have an old population right now. In the last decade, Maine gained about 13,000 people from natural increase, which is births over deaths. New Hampshire gained 45,000 people in that fashion. Additionally, New Hampshire gained about 35,000 people from migration. Johnson said that's a strong balance to have.

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On the outside

MyJailBird.com helps inmates' families keep in touch

Kevin Brothers wants to keep friends and family members of prison inmates connected. MyJailBird.com, which is based in Nashua but moving to Londonderry, serves that purpose. The website helps friends and family communicate and lets people send letters with the click of a button. Brothers hopes improving inmates' support will reduce the rate of recidivism.

Q: *What's the website all about?*
It's a social networking site for friends and family of people that are incarcerated in the United States. Inmates, especially federal ... have access to e-mail but they can't surf the net, typically. So ... it's designed for the friends and family of the inmate to help them understand what's going on ... and to help them send cards, letters and money to the inmate. When you're incarcerated, you're given an identification number If you don't know the number, you can't send letters, money or cards in.... You'd have to contact the person's significant other or a family member to get the number and to find where the person is located. This allows you to send a card, letter or money from the site on the fly.

Where did the idea for this come from?

My two partners and I ... we've had friends and family go through the system. So that spawned the idea.

[Brothers offered statistics and information on the current prison system.]

There are 2.5 million people incarcerated in the United States right now.... Of the 700,000 inmates released within the last three to five years, depending on the study, 50 to 60 percent of them end up back incarcerated. ... We believe that ... having that support group while they're incarcerated helps avoid having to go back in.

At what point did this become more than just an idea ...?

About six months ago. ... We have 5 percent of the world's population and 24 percent of the world's incarcerated population. ... It's kind of a flawed system. If you want to communicate ... you can't just pick up a phone and call. There's certain ways you can communicate, an inmate can send mail out or he can call you. E-mail just came onto the scene in the last 10 months.

So it's all about having a support system in place?

Yes ... For every one incarcerated inmate, there are 10 to 15 people affected by it: sisters, brothers, cousins, mothers, fathers....

What's the response been so far?

We recently launched our first direct mail campaign We mailed directly into the federal penal system — that's the most stringent. We've probably gotten an 8-percent response, but again we only mailed it out a week ago. ...

So you're mailing directly to inmates?

We'll do a direct mail campaign into the system. What happens is an inmate calls their significant other or mails their significant other and asks them to sponsor a site for them. They then go to the site, register the information ... there will be a custom template for him, with a message wall, a community with friends and family. There's a communication center where you can send cards, letters or money orders through Western Union. So it's set up for the inmate by the sponsor. ...



There is the sponsor role, someone going in creating a Facebook-like template, and a friend role, where you go to the site to send a card, letters or money, to befriend an inmate that you know ...

... send a birthday wish ... The site is free to join. There is a charge to send a card, letters or money.

How did you get to this point with the website?

A lot of discussions with correctional facilities and inmates.... And understanding the operating side, how mail comes in, how it needs to be coming into the system. ... There are a lot of benefits to this system. It's all done on a browser online. You write a letter or select a card, and it's sent to a third-party shop, where it's printed, labeled, stamped and mailed within 24 hours.

So all this is done online but in the end, it's an actual physical letter?

It's a hard tangible letter, which, to me, has more weight than an e-mail. Once you power down the computer in the prison library, you don't have the ability to see that picture again. But the tangible element, a photo of your children, you can take that back to your sleeping quarters and read it as many times as you want.

What about corrections officials? Are they thinking this is going to have a positive impact?

They definitely hope so. Everything in correctional facilities is a slow process. ... We're working with several Ph.D.s and we're looking for a federal grant to show the process over 18 to 36 months can reduce the recidivism rate. So we're attempting that as well.

This type of communication, this is all already happening in some capacity?

It's already being done in some capacity. This is making it more convenient and easier and more cost-effective. For example, three people sending in money, because you need money to survive in prison. An inmate makes 24 cents per hour at most.... You need toothpaste, toilet paper, clothing, goods and services. So two or three people sending \$50 per month, they'll spend \$16 in transaction fees.... On our site, you can pool money and send it in at one time, saving you two-thirds of the money. ...

[Brothers is working to develop similar websites for eldercare and the military.]

There are a lot of commonalities, unfortunately, [between] the penal system and the eldercare market. You might find this great assisted-living facility for your aunt that's 300 miles away. ... It would be a Facebook-like template for the individual managed by a person at home.

—Jeff Mucciarone

QOL

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

JANUARY 6, 2010

Dog gone

QOL was particularly moved by a call from the owners of Patsy, a 16-week-old Rottweiler who disappeared from her owners' back yard in Manchester's North End about three weeks ago. The owners are offering a reward. Contact the Manchester Animal Shelter at 628-3544 if you have information.

QOL score: -1

Comment: *She's just a puppy.*

Record week on the slopes

While all the snow that fell last week was too late for Christmas, it was just in time for the ski resorts. Several ski resorts reported record attendance during the holiday week, according to the Union Leader. Such success wasn't limited to downhill skiing, as cross-country ski trails also reported a huge week.

QOL score: +1

Comments: *Skiing is good for the state's economy and for people's health. That is called a win-win.*

Snowblower recall

There has been a voluntary recall of some 18,500 Honda Snow blowers, according to the state Department of Safety. The problem with the snowblowers is leakage of gasoline. State Fire Marshal Bill Degnan used the recall to remind people to store gasoline outside the home and to make sure that any snowblower stored in the garage contains only small amounts of gasoline.

QOL score: -1

Comments: *Visit www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/firesafety/news/20101230.htm to see which models were recalled.*

Vandals cause fish deaths

Vandals apparently shut off a water pump at a hatchery in Milford, which ultimately resulted in the deaths of about 15,000 rainbow trout last month. Vandals broke into a water pumping station off North River Road in Milford on Saturday, Dec. 18, and in the process shut off the pump, according to the state Fish and Game Department. The fish were slated to be released throughout the Monadnock Region for anglers. As of last week, Fish and Game officials were still investigating the incident, which took place in a popular recreation area. Milford police are also investigating. Anyone with information should call 271-3361 to reach Fish and Game or 249-0630 to reach Milford police.

QOL score: -2

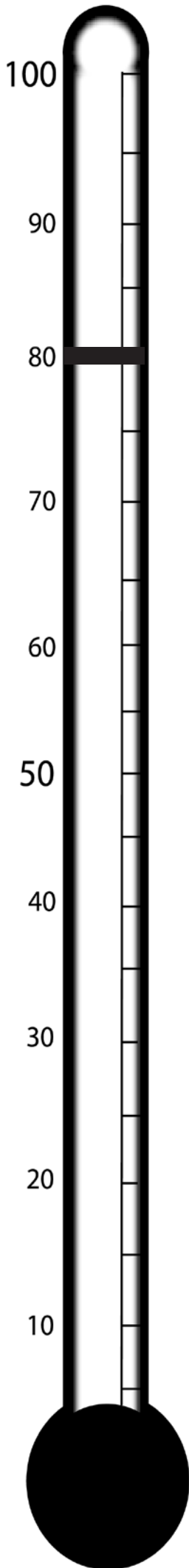
Comment: *Callers wishing to remain anonymous can call the Operation Game Thief 24-hour hotline at 800-344-4262, or report online at www.HuntNH.com/OGT.*

QOL score: 50

Net change: -3

QOL this week: 47

"47? What happened?" you ask. Don't worry — the quality of life didn't plummet in a week. With the new year, the QOL index has reset itself to 50. We'll see how life gets better (or worse) in 2011. Notice something that changed the quality of life for good or for ill in southern New Hampshire? Let us know at news@hippopress.com



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DAVE LONG'S HIPPO SPORTS

LONGSHOTS

2010 teaches great lessons to those paying attention



As I look ahead to doing the right thing in 2011, I first want to ask: what did we learn in the last year? It's to pay homage to the saying "if you don't learn from history you are doomed to repeat the

mistakes of the past."

What the exact phrase actually is is subject to debate. But according to Wikipedia it originally came from the Spanish philosopher **George Santayana** — who I'm tempted to say was no relation to **Carlos Santana**. But after the nasty postcards I got last fall from the guy who couldn't stay with us on a simple play on words about the **Spencer Davis Group**, I'll refrain. Wiki tells us, Carlos, err, George actually said, "those who can not remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Either way it says there's something to learn from 2010 when you look back.

I don't know if it was an all-time record, but last year was a lulu for sports scandals. Like college basketball followers now know to stay away from Italian restaurants that let you stay on past closing after the humiliation **Rick Pitino** endured during the extortion trial he got himself mixed up in. As folks from **Bill Clinton** to **Tiger Woods** can tell you, getting caught messing around like that ain't worth the short-term gratification. Tiger in particular suffered for that in losing his marriage, half his fortune in the divorce, a boatload of high-paying clients and, worst of all, time he can't get back with his kids while sharing custody. And he also misplaced his all-world game thanks to the indiscretions that were the catalyst (or was it catalyst?) of his troubles. But having seen the travails of celebs from **Wade Boggs** to **Eliot Spitzer** to **Ben Roethlisberger** to **Steve Phillips**, the one lesson I've learned is that few will learn from it — though they're going to have to go some to beat Tiger on the "boy did I mess things up" scale.

Then there was the lack of humility that bordered on insanity. It was most notably demonstrated by **LeBron James'** making the decision to do The Decision. That led to the fastest drop in national popularity since, oh, aaaa, ummm? I got it, **Tiger** a few months earlier! There was also **Mark McGwire's** non-apology apology when he said steroids didn't help him hit more homers. Earth to Mark: yes, the public is gullible, but fool me once blame on you, fool me twice blame on me. Besides, using a lame excuse isn't the way to get the public to forget your bads. It's accounting for five spectacular TDs on a Monday night as **Michael Vick** did in October. That will lead people to do everything but nominate you for a Nobel Prize. And then there's **Roger Clemens**. I mean Tiger and LeBron were dumb, but Roger is off-the-charts dumb, as the aftermath of DEMANDING to be heard in Congress, where he made McGwire look like Aristotle, will probably send him to prison on a charge of lying to Congress. I know — you can't make this stuff up 'cause no one would believe it.

I could harp on the crazy stuff, but I'd rather talk about a 2010 lesson to learn from. My MAJOR pet peeve is people who need others to tell them how to act because they don't have the guts or imagination to go against conventional thinking or current trends. That makes them a-scared to

try something new, or to be called old-fashioned — if for instance they say, in the age of the specialized NFL, that playing a linebacker at tight end is smart be-FORE it produces nine TDs on nine career catches. That's how we get non-sense like genuflection to the almighty pitch count or a starter winning the Cy Young with 12 stinking wins.

So here's my mandate to all: just because more think a certain way, that doesn't mean it's right. It just means more think that way. So learn from these examples to make decisions based on logic and reason and not what everyone else is saying to do. And if you waver, think of Nazi Germany in the mid-1930s when the majority thought **Hitler** was swell — how'd that turn out?

Danny Woodhead and **BenJarvus Green-Ellis**: My favorite story of the year. No name, under-sized, anti-combine guys who helped turn the Patriots season into a dream. Both went undrafted, as are an amazing 21 of the 53 guys on the current Patriots roster, which is the latest example of the all-world coach being ahead of the pack by seeing what a player IS and not what he isn't.

Chip Kelly and **Dan Mullen**: What do you think the boys in Vegas would have given for odds that two guys playing high school football around the same time in dinky Manchester would climb the college football ladder to where one is among the BIGGEST names in a landscape once defined by legendary figures like Knute Rockne, Amos Alonzo Styagg, Bear Bryant and Joe Paterno (though he's so old I think he coached in all those eras) and the other's not far behind? Or that a guy on the staff of UNH not too long ago would be taking HIS team into the national title game, as Chipper will do Monday night? I'd say 1,000 to 1 is on the low side.

Matt Cassel: How many times does a career college back-up get drafted? Almost never comes to mind. But Coach B went against the grain and took him. And even after he did a great job filling in for **Tom Brady** in '08 he still got dismissed as a "system" QB, because the "experts" didn't want to SEE how he played as they went 11-5 when they scored over 50 points twice. And now he's turned out better than BOTH Heisman Trophy winners he backed up in college.

Brian Wilson and **Brain Sabean**: I asked my sports management class at NHTI the day after the Giants won the World Series if they thought anyone from dinky Concord, N.H., could ever work their way up to be a general manager of a major league team. Not one said yes, but that's what Sabian did in going from a player at Concord High and Eckerd College, to coaching in college, to scouting for the Yankees, to running the Giants' farm system to being the GM who put the world champs together. And he did it by going against the grain with a bearded closer of out Londonderry, N.H., who doesn't have what most say a closer HAS to have, a blazing fastball to strike people out. His career path is a lesson to my class and to you why we should think BIG!

Learn from these stories. They're examples of what gumption and trust in yourself against prevailing wisdom can do.

Dave Long can be reached at dlong@hippo-press.com. He hosts Saturday Morning Sports with Dave Long from 11 a.m. to noon Saturdays on WGAM — The Game 1250-AM in Manchester and 900-AM in Nashua.

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PEOPLE, PLACES & OTHER STUFF

Manchester teams win QC hoops tournament

The Big Story: The titles on both sides of the 48th annual Queen City Invitational Basketball Tournament went to Manchester schools. On the girls end Memorial behind an MVP performance by **Ashley Gendron** beat Trinity and Bow in the full-game rounds to claim the title, and for the boys it was Central who grabbed the top spot after an opening win over West followed by wins over the Memorial boys and Merrimack in the final. **John Wickey** was high man for the Green in the 49-41 win over Merrimack to clinch MVP honors on the boys side. Gendron had 22 to lead Memorial in their 51-43 win in the final over Bow.

QCIBT Hockey: In hockey it was out-of-towner Hanover who claimed the title with a 5-1 thumping of Memorial at the JFK Coliseum on Thursday. It was a quick offense that did in the Crusaders as after grabbing an early 1-0 lead Hanover scored twice in 31 seconds to take a 2-1 second-period lead and then tourney MVP **Max Woods** scored twice within 1:17 in the third period to nail down the win.

Sports 101: The great **Larry Bird** scored 21,971 points in his Celtics career. How many of the seven guys above him on the career scoring list who also played for the Celtics at one time in their career can you name?

Hot Ticket: What else? The College Football National title game pitting undefeated and untied 12-0 Auburn, who'll bring along Heisman Trophy winner **Cam Newton**, against undefeated and untied Oregon led by home town guy **Chip Kelly**. If you're not going, it comes your way from Glendale, Ariz., on Monday night Jan. 10 at 8:30 p.m. with ESPN on the broadcast for the first time.

Player of the Week: Got to be **Thomas Baudinet** after his second consecutive 40-point effort for Saint Anselm. This one came on Thursday in a 91-86 win in overtime over Bloomfield College of New Jersey. His big night made him just the second player in school history to score 40 or more in a game three times, and it helped the Hawks survive an 18-0 second-half run by Bloomfield before it went to OT, where Baudinet iced it with a three with less than a minute to go.

Sports 101 Answer: The seven players who once played for the Celtics and have more points in their pro basketball career than Larry Bird are, in order from most to least, **Shaquille O'Neal** — who is the highest at seventh all-time — followed by **Dominique Wilkins**, **John Havlicek**, **Artis Gilmore**, **Robert Parish**, **Kevin Garnett** and **Gary Payton**. He'll also be passed in the near future by both **Ray Allen** and **Paul Pierce**.

The Numbers

2.65 — million dollars per year for the next four years for Mississippi State football coach **Dan Mullen** (Trinity High School). Mullen's Bulldogs routed Michigan 52-14 in the Gator Bowl.

4 — points scored in the second period by Central and in the final period by Memorial in a defensive battle in the QCIBT, decided in the final minute with a free throw to give the Green a 38-37 win.

7 — team-high double-doubles recorded by **Stefanie Murphy** of the BC women's hoop team. The latest came in an 80-67 victory against Northeastern that included three consecutive 3-pointers by the talented Londonderry hoopster.

donderry hoopster.

8 — times Central has won the QCIBT and Class L championships in the same season.

17 — teams have won the QCIBT and Class L basketball titles in the same season.

30 — field goal percentage the stingy SNHU defense held Dowling to in a 50-46 opening-round win of the SNHU Holiday Classic when **Sloan Sorrell** led the way with 8 points and 11 rebounds.

31 — game-high points scored by Merrimack's **Rachel Carter** to lead the Tomahawks to a 68-31 win over Goffstown in the opening round of the Nashua Girls Holiday Tournament as well as seconds remaining when **Joe Stisser** caned the game-winning free throw to give

Central a 38-37 nail-biter of a win over Memorial in the semi-final of the QCIBT.

37 — total points scored in the two full games of the QCIBT by **Ashley Gendron** to lead the tournament in scoring.

56 — combined saves made by Bedford's **Steven Tempestra** (28) and **Tyler Karanasios** (18) of Memorial when the Bulldogs downed the Crusaders 3-2 in overtime in Round II of the Christmas Hockey Classic.

57 — combined saves by **Joshua Jacob** (28) and **Cory Kolden** (31) from Memorial and Trinity respectively when the Crusaders opened the Christmas Hockey Classic with a 5-4 win over the Pioneers.

way to the 89th most famous line in AFI's poll of Top 100 movie lines and gave Ronnie the political nickname he took all the way to the big house on Pennsylvania Avenue. As for the coach he brought ND to national acclaim by winning five national titles, having five undefeated seasons and going 105-12-5 in 13 years in South Bend before a plane crash brought it all to a premature end in 1931. Bonus points if you know the role of Ka-Nute in the movie was played by the actor Pat O'Brien and not the former cheesy Entertainment Tonight host of the same name.

Sports Glossary

San Francisco Giants: The baseball team that made my insurance mogul friend and gigantic fan of the east and west coast Giants a very happy man this past October. And he stayed that way until DeSean Jackson got his hands on that punt a few weeks back — but that's a sob story for another day.

Knut Rockne: The guy America can thank for Ronald Reagan, who reprised the role of George Gipp in Hollywood's 1940 bio-pic glorification of the late Notre Dame coach. It gave Reagan the line "win one for the Gipper" to deliver, which made it all the



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Part one in Hippo's four-part guide to feeling fit and ready for the year, inside and out

In this issue: It's resolution time! Instead of the standard "lose X pounds," we take a look at some other resolutions to get you feeling good and looking good in the new year. We look at how to get more energy, how to get your finances in good health, how to get the wardrobe you want and how to work out your mind on the issues of the day. Maybe your resolution is to read more or relax a little. We've got the info on those ways of getting clear-headed and ready for 2011 as well.

Resolve to: have more energy

Before you get going, get charged



Greg Palladino (right) and Scott Innes work out at Gold's Gym. Adam Coughlin photo.

By Adam Coughlin

Televisions, value meals and popcorn. They all come super-sized. In fact, the only thing many Americans need more of is energy. But it's a catch-22: working out gives you more energy but you need energy to work out. So where do you even begin? Turns out you'll need to start in your head.

"Having the right mentality is the biggest part," said Danielle Dunham, a former fitness competitor. "A lot of people don't even know where to begin. They'll start off as fanatics and then by February will have fallen off the bandwagon. The key to having more energy is to ease into [it]."

Starting small was the advice of Ryan Griffin, head trainer at Gold's Gym in Manchester. Griffin said it never works if you try to make too many habit changes at once. He said he likes to implement one change every two weeks with a client.

The first step has to be the diet. But this doesn't have to be a complete overhaul. Dunham suggested picking three days a week to buckle down and eat as strictly and healthily as possible. She said this would include all the time-tested foods like fruits, vegetables, whole

grains and lean proteins. "Start off with only a few days and see how you feel," Dunham said. "At first it can be hard. If you're used to eating a lot of sugar your body will start to crave it. But that depletes energy levels."

When choosing food, Griffin suggested staying low to the ground.

"If it comes in a box you should probably stay away from it," Griffin said. He recommended vegetables and lean proteins like meat and beans.

While food is important, drinking enough water is a simple way to improve your energy, according to Jennifer Anifant, a nurse in the Telemetry Ward at Southern New Hampshire Medical Center.

"We get so into our lives that sometimes we don't follow common sense," Anifant said. "You really should be drinking six to eight glasses of water per day to stay hydrated."

Griffin said an expert in holistic medicine once told him that if you can't exclude, dilute. He said that is why drinking enough water is so important, because it flushes out your body.

Both Dunham and Griffin suggested taking a multi-vitamin and Omega-3 fish oil as well. Griffin said life is fast-paced and people are on the go, so even if you're eating healthy there will still be gaps in your nutrition.

Once you're eating and drinking well, you'll begin to feel better, but to have maximum energy you're going to need to adjust your sleep schedule. Dunham said a lot of things are going on in your brain while you're sleeping. The body detoxes and energizes itself for the next day. No sleep means no energy. But life moves pretty fast. Sometimes consistency is tough. It is critical, however.

"You need to go to bed at the same time every day," Dunham said. "Exercise will enhance your sleep because it eliminates stress and relaxes the body."

Resolve to: feel more relaxed

The flip side of having more energy is feeling more relaxed. Relax your muscles and your mind with a yoga class. Classes are available at all times of day for all levels. Here are a few of the places in the area that might help you find some inner peace in 2011.

- **Academy of Martial Arts** Manchester Commons, 403 S. Willow St., Manchester, 626-5272; Lorden Plaza, 614 Nashua St., Milford, 672-1333; academy-martialarts.com.
- **All Elements Healing Therapies** 228 Loudon Road, Concord, 225-5554, allelementshealing.com.
- **Amherst Yoga** 17 Old Nashua Road, Amherst, 673-7661, amherstyoga.com.
- **Aquarian Yoga Studio** 102 Elm St., Milford, 672-1744.
- **Bikram Yoga Concord** 8 McGuire St., Concord, 415-9642, bikramyogaconcord.com
- **Bikram Yoga Nashua** 5 Pine St. Extension, #6 Mill South, Nashua, 880-YOGA, bikramyoganashua.com
- **Bikram Yoga Manchester** 195 McGregor St., Mill West Annex, Manchester, 669-7711, manchester-bikramyoga.com
- **Body-Oasis** 89 Route 101A Suite 9, Amherst, 882-3832, body-oasis.com
- **Full Spectrum Wellness** Langer Place, 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester, 296-0830, fullspectrum-wellness.com
- **Greater Manchester Family YMCA** 30 Mechanic St., Manchester, gmfmca.org, 623-3558
- **Healing Hands Chiropractic** 25 Nashua Road, Suite F2, Londonderry, 434-3456, healinghandsnh.com.
- **Hollis Yoga** 3 Market Place, Hollis, 465-2343, hollisyoga.com.

- **Living Yoga Studio** 120A N. Main St., Concord, 226-YOGA, livingyoganh.com
- **Londonderry Yoga** 298 Rockingham Road, Route 28, Londonderry, 669-9642, chiro-yoga-massage.com
- **Manchester Yoga Center** 679 Mast Road, Manchester, 668-YOGA, nhyyoga.com
- **Moving Spirit Yoga Studio** 32 DW Hwy, Merrimack, 886-7308, movingspiritogadance.com
- **NH Power Yoga** 704 Route 101 A, Merrimack, nhpoweryoga.com, 594-2494.
- **Riverflow** 198 Londonderry Pike, Hooksett, 935-9822, riverflowyoga.com
- **Sharing Yoga** 3 Pleasant St., Concord, 630-5576, sharingyoga.com.
- **Southern New Hampshire Medical Center** 8 Prospect St., Nashua, 883-5124, snhmc.org
- **White Swan Yoga**, 1889 Elm St., Manchester, 626-9642, whiteswanyogastudio.com
- **Yoga & More** 505 W. Hollis St., Suite 106, Nashua, 889-1121, yogaandmorenh.com
- **YogaBalance** 135 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 625-4000, yogabalance.info
- **YogaCaps** yogacaps.org, 670-0302, info@yogacaps.org
- **Yoga Center** 28 S. Main St., Concord, 226-0680, nhyyogacenter.com.
- **Yoga Circles for Life** 43 Lowell Road, Belltowne Plaza, Hudson, 880-8122
- **Yoga for Today** 3 Narragansett Road, Amherst, 533-7824
- **Yoga Sanctuary** 25 Indian Rock Road, Windham, 537-0588, yogasanctuary.com
- **Zaanti Yoga and Meditation Studio** 51 Main St., Wilton, 654-3051

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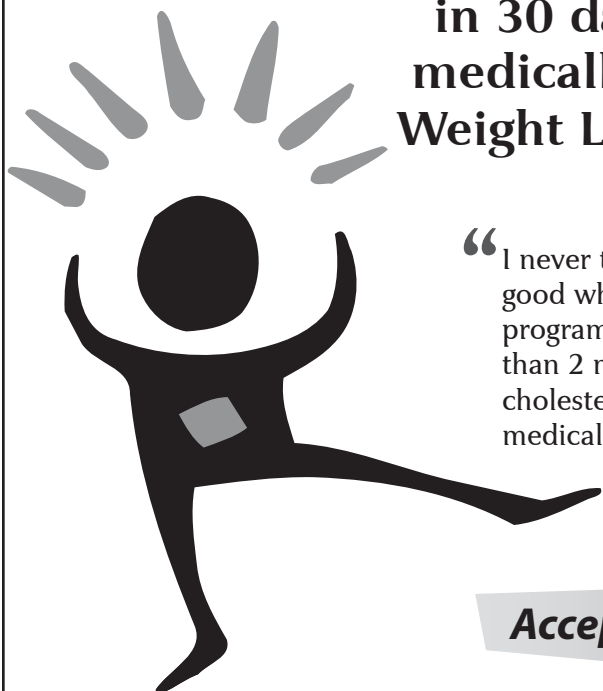
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Anifant knows something about these challenges. She works nights at the hospital, so when she is going to bed the sun is just getting up. She said she often has to force herself to sleep because there is always the temptation to run errands.

This is why it is so necessary to establish a sleep routine. Again this can be difficult. Often times problems and stress don't just shut off because the work day ends. When people come home their minds are going and even though they're tired it doesn't mean they can immediately fall asleep. Staying up later also means there will be more time for temptation and eating sweets.

“The body is tired and so it is saying to you, ‘Either put me to sleep or feed me,’” Dunham said. “Usually that is a sweet. A lot of it is mental. Once you get into a habit it becomes easier.”

This is why creating healthy habits is so critical.

Dunham suggested stopping eating two or three hours before bed. She recommends enjoying a calm activity like drinking tea or taking a hot shower.

“Do something relaxing,” Dunham said.

When you've gotten a good night's sleep, you'll wake up hungry. If you eat a big breakfast it will give you more energy throughout the day because it will keep your blood sugar levels up.

“You've got to eat three meals a day from the different food groups,” Anifant said. “I

know that sounds basic but people let life get in the way.”

Having extra energy might put you over the top and get you back into exercise. But you don't need to train like you're preparing for 300 the sequel.

“Sweat a little,” Dunham said. “Get yourself out of breath and increase your circulation.”

Griffin agrees. He said many people can't handle an hour's workout to begin with, so he suggests doing one to two minutes of exercise every hour. He said while you're at the office, find a quiet spot and do a set of push-ups or body weight squats. He said over time drastic changes can be made. He thinks this gradual approach is better than say, doing a million sit-ups at one time, because it allows less time for unhealthy habits to creep in because you'll be at it all day.

Exercise is important because it helps reduce stress. By getting your circulation going you relieve tension and even if you have to enter the same stressful workplace the next day, at least yesterday's stress will be gone and you'll be starting again at zero. Otherwise it builds on top and can really bring you down.

Of course knowing all of these tips is one thing. Implementing them is another. Anifant said many people in her ward take her pamphlets on healthy eating and throw them in the trash.

“They say, ‘I'm old. I'll eat how I want,’” Anifant said. “But it is never too late to try and get healthier and have more energy for life.”

Resolve to: get financially fit

The basics on saving and budgets

By Angel Roy

At the start of the new year, many people's resolutions involve smaller waists or bigger wallets, and a way to achieve the latter can be as simple as walking into your human resources office.

“A lot of times people are set up for choices; they can make a good choice or not in terms of personal finance,” said Michael Swack, an economics and management professor at the University of New Hampshire. “The way [the choices] are structured influences the way people do it, or not.”

Free money

Through retirement programs offered at many businesses, employees are given the option to pay into a 401k plan. Most employers commit to matching the employee's investments, dollar for dollar, up to a certain amount.

“It has been found that a lot more people participate in a [401k] program if they have to make the choice with human resources to opt out of it, as opposed to opt in,” Swack said. “If the system is structured so you don't have to be a part of it if you choose not to, you are more likely not to. If it is set up so you are automatically a part of it unless you choose not to, you are more likely to participate.”

Swack called remaining in or opting in to an employer-match 401k program is one of best ways to not only save money but save *more* money because of the employer contributions.

“Opt in. Do it,” Swack said.

Rainy day fund

And saving money is sometimes much easier said than done. Especially because technology has made it so easy to transfer funds from your savings to your checking account with the click



of your mouse.

To avoid the in-your-face balances and accessibility of both accounts, Polly Saltmarsh, New Hampshire Federal Credit Union (NHFCU) marketing manager, suggests setting up a separate account for savings that has some limitations attached.

“Make it an emergency fund,” she said. “Don't allow yourself to have an ATM card or online access to that account.”

Saltmarsh noted one way to make that savings account grow is tucking 10 percent of every paycheck into it. Additional income such as tax returns and bonuses should also be deposited into a savings fund.

If you find yourself fortunate enough to be granted a pay raise, Saltmarsh suggests taking a portion or all of the increased amount and putting it into a 401k.

“Try to stay at what you are earning now for take-home,” she said.

Saving money is the best way to achieve “medium-term” goals, Saltmarsh wrote in an e-mail to NHFCU members.

“Think about expenses or purchases that

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may take place in the next five to 10 years, like having money for college expenses for your children, or cash to put down when you buy your next auto,” she wrote. “And think about your emergency fund, which should contain three to six months’ salary.”

“It may sound nearly impossible to consider putting so much aside all at once,” she continued. “Instead, focus on building the fund.”

The “B” words — budget and bills

Saltmarsh also wrote that budgeting should be done for short-term goals, such as purchases to be made over the next one to two years. Some credit unions offer a Christmas savings club to assist with the budgeting process, allowing their members to tuck money into a separate account for holiday shopping.

With credit card bills piling up from holiday shopping, Saltmarsh said, people should try to pay more than the minimum payment and pay bi-weekly instead of once monthly.

“You will reduce the finance charge and be

able to pay it off faster,” she said.

Also to save a few extra bucks this year, Saltmarsh said to consider refinancing your mortgage or car loan as rates are at a low point. She said car loans can be refinanced by a new lender, usually without a fee.

“Depending on the institution, you can drop your interest pretty significantly, drop your monthly payment and sometimes can shorten the term of your loan,” Saltmarsh said.

If you managed to pay off your vehicle and it is less than seven years old, Saltmarsh said, it could be used as another way to rid yourself of credit card debt in 2011 by putting it up as a collateral. The collateral method can also be used if your car is worth more than what you owe, she said.

“You can borrow against the car again and take out up to the value of the vehicle,” Saltmarsh said adding that you will then be granted your car loan rate to pay off your credit card balance. “You will be able to pay off your credit cards, pay off your collateralized loan at less risk for the financial institution.”

Resolve to: read more

Particularly if you receive a stack of books, an e-reader or a gift card for a bookstore for a holiday gift, one of your resolutions for the new year might be to fit in more reading. One way to increase your appetite for literature is to find fellow readers to discuss the books with. Here are some of the book clubs in the area. Call to confirm times and meeting locations.

• **Amherst Town Library** 14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, amherst.lib.nh.us. Friday Afternoon Book Club will discuss *Sarah's Key* in January, *The Help* in February, and *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* in March. Call Beth Blodgett at 673-2506.

• **Book groups** at Borders, 281 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-9300, borders.com, include Armchair Globe-trotters, mystery book group, science fiction book club and more.

• **Book groups** at Barnes & Noble, 235 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-5961, bn.com, include kid lit for adults, sci-fi and more. See bn.com or call 888-0533 for times. Group for fiction readers meets third Thursdays at 7 p.m.; new members always welcome.

• **Book groups** at Barnes & Noble, 1741 South Willow St., Manchester, 668-5557, bn.com, include fiction book club; gay & lesbian readers; meta-physical book group and more. See bn.com or call 668-5557 for times.

• **Buddhist philosophy** book discussion group at Barnes & Noble in Manchester focuses on current literature on Buddhist topics, meets the second Monday of each month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the bookstore's café. E-mail dharmastudy@aol.com.

• **Candia Smyth Public Library** book discussion group meets for friendly one-hour discussion once a month. The library is at 55 High St., Candia, 483-8245, www.smythpl.org.

• **Classics Crowd** at Milford Toadstool Bookshop, 586 Nashua St., Milford, 673-1734, toadbooks.com, reads 19th-century British classics and meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

• **Derry Library** 64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, derry.lib.nh.us, readers' group meets monthly.

• **Gibson's Bookstore** 27 South Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com, hosts monthly book discussions. Everyone is welcome to come for all or any of the dates. All discussion titles are 25% off until the date of their discussion. All meetings at 7 p.m.

• **Goffstown Library** 2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102, goffstown.lib.nh.us, evening book group meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

• **Goffstown Library** 2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102, goffstown.lib.nh.us, afternoon book group meets Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.

• **Hooksett Library** 1701B Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org, book group meets the second Wed. each month at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments provided.

• **Hollis Social Library** 2 Monument Square, Hollis, 465-7721, Tuesday morning book group meets the third Tues. of every month, 9:30 a.m. — this is the only book group sponsored by the library that meets at the library. No sign-up required. Call or visit www.hollis.nh.us/library for the book selec-

tion of the month.

• **Manchester City Library** 405 Pine St., 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us, evening book discussion group meets on the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Hunt Room.

• **Manchester City Library** 405 Pine St., 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us, Brown Bag Book Club meets on the last Tuesday of the month from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. in the Hunt Room.

• **Merrimack Public Library** 470 DW Highway, Merrimack, 424-5021, www.merrimack.lib.nh.us, hosts a book discussion group at 7 p.m. on the third Wed. of each month from Sept. through June. These programs are free and open to the public, no registration required. Extra copies of each book are usually available during the month before its scheduled discussion date.

• **Positronic Brains** book club for sci-fi readers meets third Tuesdays at 8 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 235 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-5961, bn.com.

• **Rodgers Library** 194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rogerslibrary.org, offers an afternoon and an evening book discussion group. Books are available at the library; for more info or to add your name to the group mailing list, call 886-6030, e-mail askus@rogerslibrary.org or visit www.rogerslibrary.org.

• **Science Fiction & Fantasy** discussion group meets at 7 p.m. second and fourth Wednesday of each month at Toadstool Bookshop, 586 Nashua St., Milford, 673-1734, toadbooks.com. Welcomes older teens and adults to share the books they've recently read.

• **Senior Book Club** at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, wadleigh.lib.nh.us, meets occasionally; copies of the current book are available at the front desk. New participants always welcome.

• **Socrates Cafe** meets for philosophical discussion at 7 p.m. on the first and fourth Monday of each month at Nashua Borders, 281 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-9300, borders.com, and meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Milford Toadstool Bookshop, 586 Nashua St., Milford, 673-1734, toadbooks.com.

• **Sustainable Book Club** community book group meets monthly at Hooksett Public Library, 1701B Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org, to read and discuss books that examine our relationship with nature. New attendees always welcome.

• **Wadleigh Library** 49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, wadleigh.lib.nh.us, hosts adult book clubs that meet monthly, new members always welcome. Teen book group meets on the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m.; adult group meets on the third Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

• **Warner Area Book Club** meets on certain Sundays at MainStreet BookEnds, 16 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2700, mainstreetbookends.com. All are welcome; call Jen at 456-3021 or e-mail Jennkane@tds.net to sign up.

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Resolve to: get political

2011 has city elections and presidential primary prep

By Jeff Mucciarone

Voting statistics suggest there's a sizable chunk of Granite Staters who don't vote, or who aren't even registered to vote.

There are a lot of moving parts in the political world, and following all of them is difficult for even the most devoted politicos. But for someone who hasn't been all that interested in politics, getting up to speed is no easy task.

"The first thing, you need to see the movie *Inside Job*," said Arnie Arnesen, host of the radio talk show *Political Chowder*. The movie documents the global financial crisis of two years ago. "Then bring the extended family to see the movie *Inside Job*," Arnesen said the financial world is playing a bigger and bigger role in politics and everyday life in this country.

"I think it's terribly important to understand how the financial markets work," Arnesen said. "To understand the politics of it, the revenues ... I do think it's important to see *Inside Job*. It's incredible, incredible. It's so damn sobering. It really does tell you you have to be informed and you have to demand more from your representatives."

Read the *Federalist Papers*, said Rich Girard, a former Manchester politician. Find out what James Madison had to say. Once you do that, you'll have a context, and maybe a new context, to figure out how to make decisions, Girard said. Girard said diving into current events in today's political world can be fruitless if someone has no context for making decisions. Girard suggests finding that context in what the country's founding fathers said and wrote in their day.

"People need to understand decisions absent a philosophy are made in a vacuum," Girard said.

But what's unique about America, Girard said, is that people get to choose who imposes the rules. Girard said the first step to becoming aware is to accept the responsibility every citizen has in this country and to take action on that responsibility, by finding ways to make informed decisions.

Arnesen suggested watching Jon Stewart, the host of *The Daily Show*, reading *The Economist* and listening to Diane Rehm on National Public Radio.

"I think if you do those things, your world changes," Arnesen said.

Turn on the radio and listen to as many different voices as you can and see who resonates with you. On an even more basic level, go to each state party website and read the party platform — ask your-

self which sounds right to you, Girard suggested.

Arnesen said — after watching *Inside Job* — pick three newspapers, one you think you're in agreement with, and two you think you'd never want to buy. Then follow the same story in the three papers.

"Because you never get the whole story from one," Arnesen said. "Then you understand what bias is in media." If there's a particular news outlet that people think is slanted one way or another, how do you really know what it provides if you never read it, Arnesen asked. Is one publication taking an Associated Press story and just rearranging the first paragraph, while another is doing all the reporting itself? Which papers give more intensive coverage to a particular issue?

Arnesen said she used to teach mass communication and she'd make students read five to six

papers and follow just one topic in all of them, to see how it was covered, from the actual text to headlines to story placement.

"How do you do that with an adult?" Arnesen said. "It's like going on a diet. People hate to go on a diet. They tell you how many fats, carbohydrates, vegetables you need. ... You need to make sure your plate has all the things to accomplish your task. You have to actually do that with information, like a weight watchers plan with information."

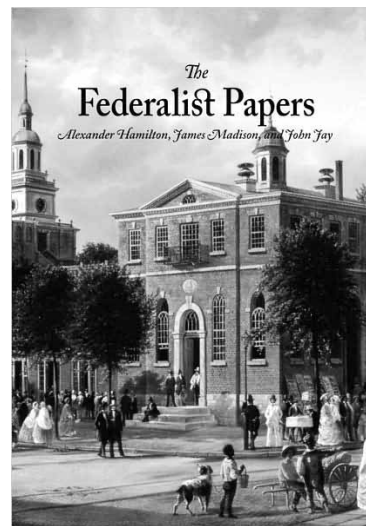
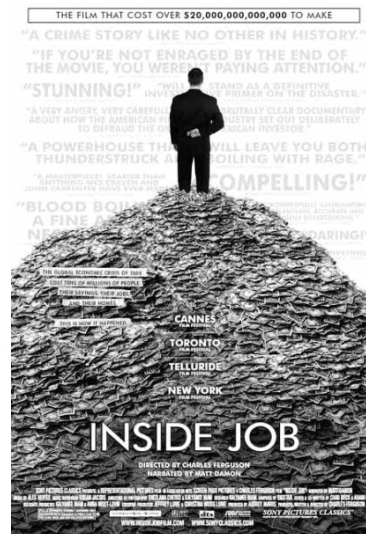
Girard said basic things like the Constitution get ignored in everyday political decision-making. Take the recent health care overhaul bill — Girard said you wouldn't find a clause in the Constitution that provides the power to require American citizens to buy anything. Girard urged people to go out and get a basic understanding of how the founding fathers' principles for government are being reinforced or diminished by what's happening politically.

"You've got to know from where we came," Girard said.

Since people learn through storytelling, Arnesen suggested finding the people who write the best stories and follow them.

Sticking with the basics, Girard suggested contacting your elected officials. Show up at town meeting. Send a letter to your congressman. You'll probably get some kind of a response.

Most local issues are tied to something on a broader scale, so in many ways the saying that all politics is local is expanding to all politics is national or even global. "You need to realize how things are connected to a larger picture," Arnesen said.



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Resolve to: shop smarter

Get the wardrobe you want



By Tori Loubier

Mary Lou Andre, president and founder of Organization By Design in Needham, Mass., and editor of dressingwell.com, can sum up how to be a smarter shopper in five steps:

1. Know your current lifestyle.
2. Organize your closet by getting rid of clothes that don't fit that lifestyle.
3. Try your clothes on to determine your correct sizing.
4. Make a list of everything you own (and a list of the items you would like to have).
5. Go shopping!

If you are someone that shops excessively or at the last minute before an event, spends too much money on trends that you'll only wear once, or can't seem to throw away old items, these tips are for you. And let's be honest: we are almost all guilty of at least one of those.

What we're doing wrong

"A lot of us buy clothes for an event. We are desperate to go out and buy something. That's when we make a bad decision," said Johanna Foster, a Boston-based professional stylist and wardrobe consultant. During the holiday season, husbands across the New England area hire Foster to buy for their wives.

Foster categorizes occasion-specific and trendy items as "disposable purchases," and says buying them is similar to buying candy because these items can be enjoyed in the moment but not necessarily in the future.

Foster also sees a lot of clients who want to hold onto old items that don't fit them anymore.

"The hardest thing, especially with women clients, is that they keep thinking they will lose the weight to wear old clothes. [The truth is] those pieces shouldn't have any place in your wardrobe," she said. The same goes for items that don't fit us well but we buy them because we like some-

thing else about it.

For example, Foster had a client who had worked in an office for 10 years but had recently had a child: "She was now a mother and all of her clothes represented her former life. [I told her] to save one suit and let go of the other six. If [she] eventually got another job or went back to work later, all of the styles would have changed such that [she'd] need an update anyway."

Other problem areas include excessive shopping and buying items that don't have things to match with.

"If you find a top you love and buy it in every color, you won't wear most of them. We always gravitate to our favorite color anyway," Foster said, adding that we often tend to buy skirts that we don't have tops to match with. "If you buy a skirt then you need to hunt for a top to go with it. Most of the time we're unsuccessful and end up never wearing the skirt."

Lastly, Foster notes that many of us tend to shop in one favorite store.

"Don't stay in one place," she said, adding that comparing prices at different stores is worth it, especially when shopping for the basics.

Starting from scratch

"Get clear on who you are today before you open the closet door," said Andre, whose philosophy is rooted in the premise that the first and most important thing to do in the morning is get dressed and have a good closet of clothes to do so.

Being clear on who you are today means taking an honest look at your body type, weight, size, occupation, daily activity, geographic location, etc.

"We wear about 20 percent of what we own, 80 percent of the time," Andre said. "Take the clothes you don't wear and give them to a new home." Andre says that after mastering this first step, many of her clients walk away with a new wardrobe without ever going to the store.

Next, Andre suggests shopping through your closet to get a feel for what you are

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lacking.

"Train your eye to recognize what shapes and styles of clothes look best on you. I have my clients put on a black top and black pants, and then try on different accessories over that monochromatic look," she said.

"Answer these questions: are you petite, missy, plus size? Where should your pockets be placed so it doesn't show off a large behind? Where should the jacket lie? How do you accessorize?" Looking at your closet like a store helps you understand what looks good and what doesn't.

"Identify what you love about yourself. Make a list of items that complement what you love. This list will help reinforce who you are and what your lifestyle is," she said.

Now, get rid of the things that are not on that list. "When you start releasing things, you make room for new ones," said Andre.

For Foster, it's also important to make sure that you don't already have a better alternative: "If you are just craving something new, don't spend more than you feel comfortable on. If you want trendy, realize you don't need it, you just want it. It's not a staple."

With an idea of what you love about yourself, your current lifestyle, your size, and what you don't have, the next step is to go shopping.

Andre believes that most women don't need volume in their closet to make it a great one.

"Whenever someone actually needs a whole new wardrobe is when they've had a major weight or lifestyle change. Usually, however, there are a few gems in your closet that are worth adding to," Andre said.

The basics

Having a wardrobe with the basics is key in building a strong foundation.

"Most everyone can wear neutral colors like black, gray, navy or chocolate brown," Andre said. Once you have the bases down is when you can begin to add fun and colorful accessories.

"Colors look different on you at every age," said Foster. "It depends on your skin tone and age. A good way to balance this out is to keep the neutral ones close to your face, and the bright ones further away."

In addition to these colors, Foster says fab-

rics are just as important: "Look for things that are tactile and feel good. If you put something on that feels stuffy, you'll regret it." Foster prefers natural-based fabrics like pure wool or pure cotton, and adds that when buying linen she'll scrunch it up in the store to see if the wrinkle holds. If it does, she won't buy it.

For Andre, the five most important items to have in your wardrobe at any time are jeans, black pants, black skirt, great winter coat and boots. For Foster, it's a great black dress, black pants, beautiful white shirt, jeans and a sweater.

Both agree that it's important to keep in mind New England weather when shopping.

"In New England, outerwear is a splurge. A good winter coat and boots are vital," said Andre.

"On the East Coast we wear a lot of dark colors, but it's also nice to be able to wear a bright one on a dark, rainy day. Don't deny yourself color just because of your location," Foster said.

Other helpful shopping tips from Mary Lou Andre

- **Bottoms up.** Focus on bottoms first — pants, skirts and jeans. Once you are happy with these selections, add a minimum of three tops for each.
- **Pick a signature color.** To further simplify your wardrobe, consider accenting base neutrals with one hue that you love. Stock up on tops, bags, shoes and other accessories in the same shade of this color and you will get many looks with fewer pieces than you ever imagined.
- **Layer effectively.** Tees, camisoles, shirts, sweaters and jackets can be combined in a number of ways to give you climate control and a polished appearance.
- **Connect the dots.** Pay attention to buttons, zippers, stitching and other details on clothes and accessories as you assemble your outfits. Typically, it takes a minimum of three similar metals, colors or other details to pull a look together. Keep this in mind when selecting jewelry.
- **Check out at the store, check in with your closet.** Create a special place in your closet to store all your occasion-specific clothes. Not only will these pieces be out of your way, making day-to-day dressing easier, but they will also be easier to locate and review when an unexpected invitation comes your way.

Resolve to: learn to sew

Make your wardrobe look better and last longer by learning how to make repairs and alternations yourself. Or take some inspiration from *Project Runway* and learn to make your own skirts, bags and maybe even pants. Here are a few places in the area offering sewing classes for all levels.

• **LEVESQUE SEWING MACHINE** (1261 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 645-1661, levesque-sewvac.com) offers classes from beginner to advanced in sewing and quilting. Classes are scheduled according to demand; call to find out about availability.

• **MERRI STITCHES** (72 Mirona Road, Portsmouth, 431-9922; 58 Range Road, Windham, 685-0185, merristitches.com) offers classes and workshops, as well as a sit and sew. Visit the Website for a schedule at each store.

• **NASHUA SEW AND VAC** (228 DW Highway, Nashua, 888-2757 nashuasewandvac.com) offers classes in quilting and sewing, including classes for children.

• **NEW ENGLAND FABRICS** (55 Ralston

St., Keene, 352-8683, newenglandfabrics.com) has offered classes in sewing, knitting, quilting and more. Call for schedule.

• **NH ACADEMY OF SEWING** (Canterbury, 783-9270, nhacademyofsewing.com) offers classes covering all aspects of garment sewing, pattern fitting, pattern drafting, and fit; classes range from learning to sew to making a garment. Private lessons are also available.

• **PEGGY ANNE'S QUILTING AND SEWING** (57 North Main St., Concord, 223-2344, peggyannes.com) offers classes on quilting, sewing and more.

• **THE SEWING TREE** (66 Third St., Studio 201, Dover, 664-6944; 6 Moose Run Lane, Barrington, 664-6944; www.thesewingtree.com) offers classes at a variety of levels in sewing and garment making as well as sewing classes for children and teens.

Know of a sewing class not listed here? Or a class or meet-up group for quilting, knitting or other fabric arts? Let us know at listings@hippopress.com.

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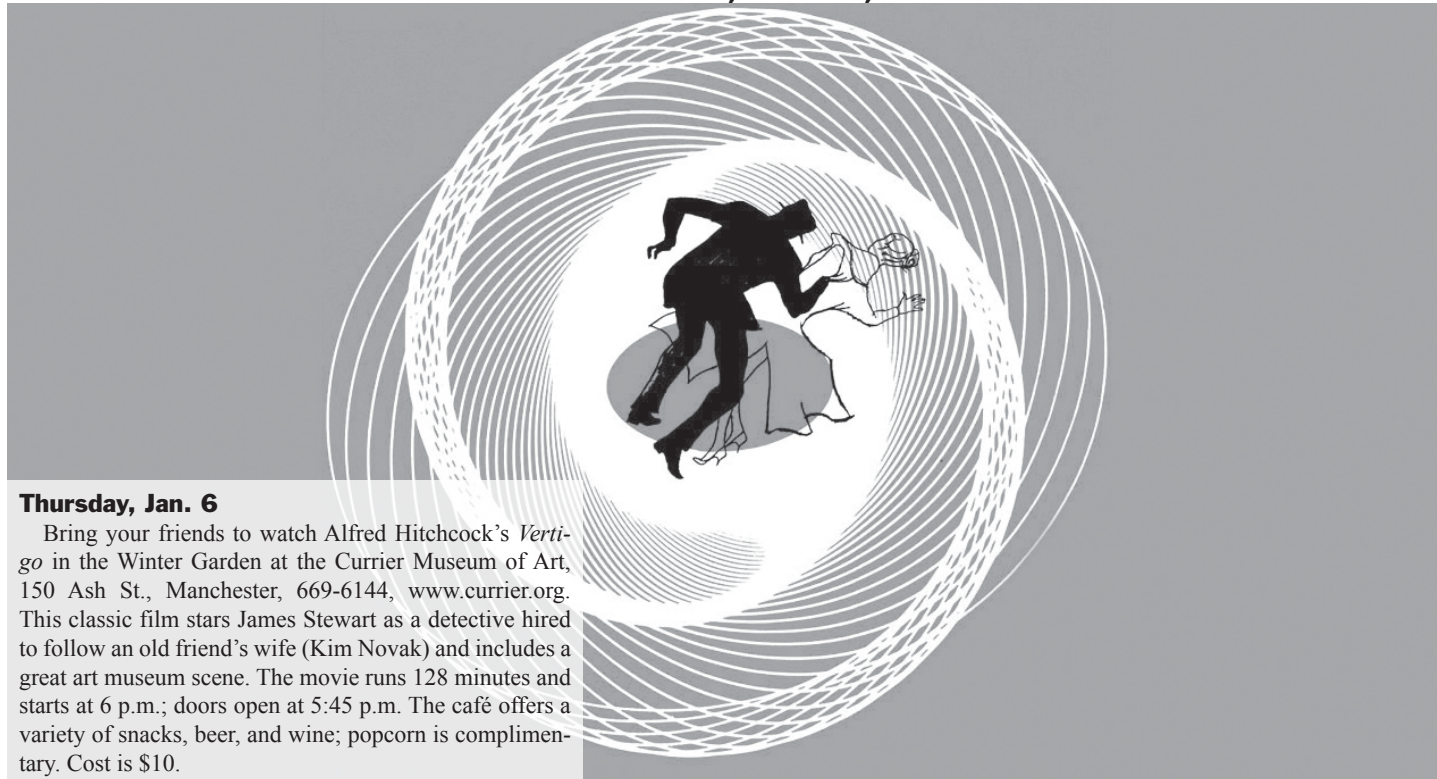
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Friday, Jan. 7

The New Hampshire Theatre Project begins a run of *Amadeus* with a show at 8 p.m. at 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. Shows will be Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through Jan. 23. Tickets cost \$24 for adults, \$18 for students and seniors. Call 431-6644 x5 or e-mail reservations@nhtheatreproject.org.



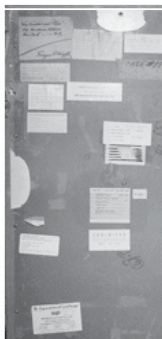
Sunday, Jan. 9

The "Sundays at 4" music series at Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, begins this afternoon with "Ben-ny and Beyond" from 4 to 5 p.m. The show will feature clarinetist Todd Brunel and pianist Joe Reid performing swing hits by Benny Goodman. The show is free and open to the public.



Sunday, Jan. 9

This is the final day to view "The Secret Life of Art: Mysteries of the Museum Revealed" at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144. The exhibit takes visitors behind the scenes of museum work. See the crate used to ship the largest painting in the collection, and look beneath the surface of major paintings. "The Secret Life of Art" is meant to captivate those who frequent the museum and also serve as an engaging introduction for those who have not visited art museums before. See a preview video at www.currier.org.



Wednesday, Jan. 12

It's hockey night at Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600, www.redrivertheatres.org. Choose your film: *Slap Shot* (1977; starring Paul Newman as the veteran coach, and look for a young Swoosie Kurtz) and *Miracle* (2004; starring Kurt Russell and chronicling the 1980 U.S. Olympic men's hockey team) are both showing at 8 p.m.

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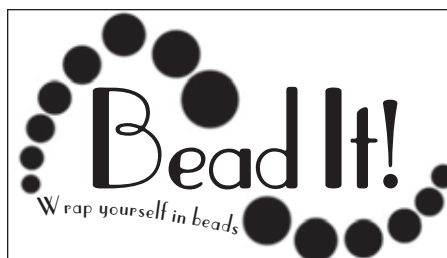


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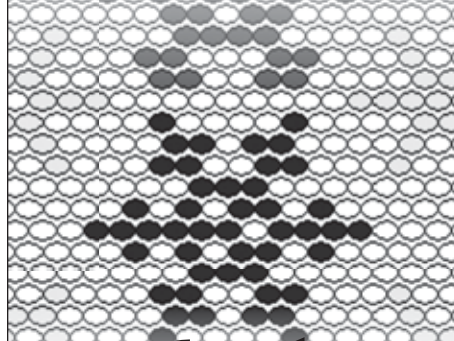
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Free: Bike knowledge

Like to bike? Brush up on your knowledge by attending the free discussions at Freewheel Cycles, 9 Court St., Nashua, every other Tuesday this winter from 7 to 8 p.m. On Jan. 11, the topic will be optimizing cycling performance with chiropractic care. On Jan. 25, the topic will be strength and fitness conditioning for endurance athletes. Feb. 8: bicycle suspension setup. Feb. 22: tire and tube removal and installation. March 8: bicycling techniques. March 22: bicycle frame material. Call 204-5579 or visit info@freewheelcyclesnh.com.

Cheap: Hoops show

Watch the Harlem Wizards perform their trademark Trick Hoops & Alley Oops in a game against the Fighting Falcons to benefit the Stephen Cmar Scholarship Fund at Bow High School (32 White Rock Hill Road, Bow) on Wednesday, Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 for students, \$12 for adults, at www.harlemwizards.com or by calling 224-6644.

Splurge: Monster trucks

The Advance Auto Parts Monster Jam Thunder Nationals roar in to the Verizon Wireless Arena (555 Elm St. Manchester, 644-5000, www.verizonwirelessarena.com) on Friday, Jan. 7, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Jan. 8, at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Competitors include Thrasher, Ice Monster, Ground Pounder, Black Stallion and Iron Man. The Party in the Pits on Saturday, Jan. 8, from 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. gives fans the opportunity to see the trucks up close and meet the drivers. See the story on page 45 for more information.

Don't be a Gollum

Director reflects on *The Hobbit's* theme

By Adam Coughlin
acoughlin@hippopress.com

J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit* has become a classic because it focuses on the universal theme of stepping out of your comfort zone and being part of something bigger than yourself. Those involved with the Majestic Theatre's production of the story can relate to it both on and off the stage.

The fantasy novel, which was published in 1937, tells the story of Bilbo Baggins, a lovable hobbit with a secret desire for adventure. Bilbo leaves all that is familiar behind and strikes out into the unknown.

Director Denise Therrien is doing the same thing.

Therrien has been in education her entire life, teaching at numerous private schools in Manchester. But now she is on the verge of a career change to health care. It is a career she never really wanted to work in and was in many ways afraid of. But sometimes life has other plans. Now Therrien, like Bilbo, must rise to the occasion.

"I have my own Smaug, the dragon [Bilbo's nemesis], to slay," said Therrien. "Bilbo

was an underdog. Well, in our lives we will all be underdogs at some point."

The script for *The Hobbit* has many such teachable moments and Therrien takes every opportunity to use them. She said while in production she always discusses the material. For example, a memorable character of Tolkien's is Gollum, a repulsive creature who succumbs to the power of the ring. Gollum has two different personalities and often yells and belittles himself. While most of our inner dialogue isn't so extreme, Therrien said we often discourage ourselves.

"We often torment ourselves or beat ourselves up," Therrien said. "We shouldn't let our inner voice keep us from succeeding."

Therrien, who has taught summer camp theater at the Majestic before, said she loves metaphors and allegories and believes theater is a way for young people to find their way. She said she likes to use her own mistakes to help guide her young actors.

In the production of *The Hobbit*, which opens Thursday, Jan. 13, Therrien is working with 16 actors between the ages of 7 and 17. She said such a spectrum has been nice as the older actors have taken the younger ones

under their wings.

"I didn't ask them to," Therrien said. "They just did it naturally."

Therrien also complimented the youngsters on their commitment. She said one actress was already off book by the second rehearsal.

"This is a group of motivated young people," Therrien said. "It has been a pleasure to work with them."

Therrien hopes the camaraderie formed during rehearsal will translate to the stage. The development of the characters is essential to the success of the play. Therrien said doing a story like *The Hobbit* can be intimidating for a director. When many think of Tolkien's works they think of the *Lord of the Rings* films by director Peter Jackson. These films had hundreds of millions of dollars in special effects — something that is not going to happen in local theater.

So Therrien said she would go for a less-is-more approach. She said with this larger-than-life story there were certain things that she couldn't portray in a concrete way so it was better to just leave them to people's imaginations.

Another issue is the density of *The Hobbit*. Therrien said she had to make difficult deci-



Bilbo Baggins and Gollum from *The Hobbit*. Courtesy photo.

sions because so much needed to be left out. But she said any fan would find all the familiar characters like Bilbo, Gandalf and the Elven Queen.

"Come enjoy the characters and the way the young people interpret them," Therrien said. "Whether the story is being portrayed in the novel, on screen or on stage, the characters are the constant between them."

The Hobbit

When: Thursday, Jan. 13, Friday, Jan. 14, Saturday, Jan. 15, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Jan. 16, at 2 p.m.
Where: The Majestic Theatre, 281 Cartier St., Manchester
Tickets: Cost \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors (65+), \$8 for children 17 and under.
Info: 669-7469, www.majestictheatre.net

26

Cyan
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Yellow
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26 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com

28 Art

Includes listings for gallery events, ongoing exhibits and classes. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

29 Classical

Includes symphony and orchestral performances. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

THEATER LISTINGS

- **The Acting Loft**
670 North Commercial Street, Manchester in the Jefferson Mill Building.666-5999, actingloft.org
- **Actorsingers**
219 Lake St., Nashua, 889-9691, actorsingers.org
- **Adams Memorial Opera House**
29 W. Broadway, Derry, 437-0505, derryarts.org
- **Amato Family Center for the Performing Arts at Souhegan Valley Boys & Girls Club**
56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002 ext. 2, svbge.com
- **Andy's Summer Playhouse**
Wilton, 654-2613, andyssummerplayhouse.org
- **Anselmian Abbey Players**
Dana Center, 641-7700
- **Bedford Off Broadway**
Meetinghouse Rd, Bedford, 557-1805, bedfordoffbroadway.com
- **Bedford Town Hall**
70 Bedford Center Rd., Bedford
- **Bedford Youth Performing Company**
155 Route 101, Bedford, www.bypc.org, 472-3894.
- **Belle Voci**
bellevoci.org, 848-7986
- **Capitol Center for the Arts**
44 Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
- **Concord Chorale**
224-0770, concordchorale.org
- **Concord City Auditorium**
2 Prince St., Concord, 228-2793, www.theaudi.org
- **Concord Community Players**
224-4905, communityplayersofconcord.org
- **The Dana Center**

- 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu
- **The Majestic Theatre**
281 Cartier St., Manchester, 669-7469, majestictheatre.net
- **Manchester Community Music School**
2291 Elm St., 644-4548, mcmusicschool.org
- **Manchester Community Theatre and Second Stage**
Professional Co.
698 Beech St., Manchester, 627-8787
- **Milford Area Players**
673-2258, milfordareaplayers.org
- **Muchachos Drum & Bugle Corps**
PO Box 5197, Manchester, 674-7650, www.muchachos.org
- **Music and Drama Company (MADCo.)**
Londonderry, madco.org
- **My Act**
myact.org, 429-3950
- **Nashua Theatre Guild**
PO Box 137, Nashua, 03061, 320-2530, nashuatheatreguild.org
- **New Thalian Players**
newthalianplayers.org, 666-6466
- **Nashua Community College Performing Arts Club (PAC)**
505 Amherst St., Nashua, 428-3544
- **The Palace Theatre**
80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org
- **Peacock Players**
14 Court St., Nashua, 886-7000, peacockplayers.org
- **Profile Chorus**
profilechorus.org
- **School of Theater Arts**

- at The Amato Center for Performing Arts**
56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002 ext. 20
- **Seacoast Repertory Theatre**
125 Bow St., Portsmouth, 433-4472
- **SNHU Drama Club**
2500 North River Rd., Hooksett
- **Stage One Productions**
- Dinner Theatre at the Chateau Restaurant**
201 Hanover St., Manchester 669-5511, stageoneprod.com
- **Yellow Taxi Productions**
yellowtaxiproductions.org
- **ASTREETCAR NAMED DESIRE**
will be performed through Jan. 23 at The Players' Ring, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays, Jan. 2, Jan. 9 and Jan. 16, at 7 p.m. and Sun., Jan. 23, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$14 general, \$12 for students and seniors. Call 436-8123 or visit www.playersring.org.
- **TRYST** will be performed through Jan. 30 at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass. Showtimes are 2, 4, 7:30 and 8 p.m. Tickets begin at \$25. Visit www.merrimackrep.org or call 978-654-4678.
- **AMADEUS** The New Hampshire Theatre Project will perform Jan. 7-23 at 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. Shows will be Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$24 for adults, \$18 for students and seniors. Call 431-6644 x5 or e-mail reservations@nhtheatreproject.org.
- **THE NIGHT OF THE KINGS III** Banquet and medieval entertainment will happen on Sat., Jan. 8, at 6:30 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church, 79 Clinton St., Concord.

- Tickets cost \$20 and are available until Jan. 4. Call 224-7431.
- **THE HOBBIT** will be performed on Thurs., Jan. 13, Fri., Jan. 14, Sat., Jan. 15, at 7:30 p.m. and Sun., Jan. 16, at 2 p.m. at the Majestic Theatre, 281 Cartier St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors (65+) and \$8 for children 17 and under. Call 669-7469 or visit www.majestictheatre.net.
- **FELA!** A high-definition broadcast from the National Theater of London on Thurs., Jan. 13, at 7 p.m. at the Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth. Call 436-2400 or visit www.themusichall.org.
- **RUMORS** will be performed Fri., Jan. 14, Sat., Jan. 15, Fri., Jan. 21, Sat., Jan. 22, Fri., Jan. 28, and Sat., Jan. 29, at 7:30 p.m., Sun., Jan. 16, Sun., Jan. 23, and Sat., Jan. 29, at 2 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$15 to \$45. Call 668-5588 or visit www.palacetheatre.org.
- **WINDHAM ON BROADWAY** Windham Actors Guild will perform on Fri., Jan. 14, and Sat., Jan. 15, at 7:30 p.m. and Sun., Jan. 16, at 2 p.m. at the Windham High School Theatre, 64 London Bridge Road, Windham. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. Visit www.windhamactorsguild.com.
- **THE LITTLE MERMAID** will be performed on Wed., Jan. 19, Thurs., Jan. 20, Wed., Jan. 26 and Thurs., Jan. 27, at 7 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$12 for adults and \$8 for children. Call 668-5588 or visit palacetheatre.org.
- **CABARET** will be performed Thurs., Jan. 20 through Sat., Jan. 29, at the Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester. Shows are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8

- p.m. and Sat., Jan. 29 at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$20-\$30. Visit www.rochesteroperahouse.com or call 335-1992.
- **FROST HEAVES** will perform on Fri., Jan. 21 and Sat., Jan. 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the Peterborough Players Theatre, 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough. Visit www.frostheaves.com
- **ONCE ON THIS ISLAND** will be performed Fri., Jan. 21, Sat., Jan. 22, Fri., Jan. 28, and Sat., Jan. 29, at 7 p.m. and Sundays, Jan. 23 and Jan. 30, at 3 p.m. at the Acting Loft Studios, Jefferson Mill Building, 670 North Commercial St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$18 for ages 13 and up and \$12 for ages 12 and under. E-mail chris@actingloft.org or call 666-5999.
- **FIDDLER ON THE ROOF** will be performed on Fri., Jan. 21, at 8 p.m. at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass. Tickets cost \$30.50, \$46.50 and \$56.50. Call 978-454-2299 or visit www.lowellauditorium.com.
- **THE RYTHM OF THE NIGHT** Dance performance will take place on Sat., Jan. 22, at 7 p.m. at the Concord City Auditorium, 2 Court St., Concord. Tickets cost \$6. Call 225-7474 or e-mail nhd40@comcast.net.
- **RICHARD 3.5: LIGHT RUMINATIONS ON MURDER** will be performed on Fri., Jan. 28, at 7:30 p.m. at the Redfern Arts Center at Keene State College, 229 Main St., Keene. Tickets cost \$7 to \$13 and \$5 for Keene State students. Call 358-2168 or visit www.keene.edu/racbp.
- **JAMES SEWALL BALLET** will perform on Fri., Jan. 28, at 7:30 p.m. at the Dana Center, Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester. Tickets cost \$29.50 for adults, \$25.50 for Saint Anselm College faculty, staff, alumni and senior citizens,

- \$12.50 for NH college students, \$6 for Saint Anselm students. Call 641-7700 or e-mail dana@anselm.edu.
- Auditions/workshops**
- **THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER** Auditions will be held on Thurs., Jan. 6, 7-9 p.m. and Sat., Jan. 8, 1-4 p.m. in the east wing of the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Auditions will consist primarily of readings of the script. A minute-long comedy monologue is preferred but not required. There are many roles available for any adult age 18 or older. Call 880-0243 or e-mail KPRiley7@aol.com.
- **TWO CHRISTMAS MUSICALS** Auditions for *Amahl and the Night Visitors* and *The Gift of the Magi* will be held Sat., Jan. 8, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Leddy Center, 38 Ladds Lane, Epping. Beautiful voices are needed for shepherds, Amahl (age 9-11), mother, 3 Kings, a boy page, and one dancer. *The Gift of the Magi* has one newly married couple in their 20s-30s. Call 679-2781.
- **CALIFORNIA SUITE** Auditions will be held on Mon., Jan. 10, and Thurs., Jan. 13, at 7 p.m. at the Bedford Old Town Hall, 3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford. Looking for 10 actors, 5 men and 5 women, aged between 20 to 60 years old. There will be a cold reading from the script. E-mail mikewoodnh@comcast.net.
- **WINTER CLASSES** Riverbend School of Theater Arts will hold winter classes for eight weeks Jan. 10 through March 12. There will also be a spring session March 21 through May 21 and a summer session. Visit www.svbge.org for a complete list of classes and times.
- **HONK** Auditions will be held on Thurs., Jan. 13, 7-9 p.m., and Sat.,

Curtain Calls

• **State premiere:** As snow fell last week, the Milford Area Players were already thinking ahead to the summer. The theater group announced their 2011 summer production. They will perform Tracy Letts' 2008 Pulitzer and Tony award-winning *August: Osage County*. The performance, which is scheduled for July at the Amato Center in Milford, will be the New Hampshire premiere and the first resident production in New England of the play. *August: Osage County* is a show about dealing with the past and the present. The play is set in Tulsa, Okla., which is where director Vick Bennison grew up. He has been wanting to direct this play since it debuted in Illinois in 2007. More information about the show will be available this spring. Visit www.milfordareaplayers.org.

• **Never too early:** Is it too early to look forward to Christmas 2011? OK, it is way too early but in theater it is better to be safe than sorry. That is why the Leddy Center, 38C Ladd's Lane, Epping, will be holding auditions for two Christmas musicals for its 2011 season. Auditions for Carlo Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors* and O. Henry's *The Gift of the Magi* will be held on Saturday, Jan. 8, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Leddy Center. For Menotti's play voices are needed for male and female Shepherds, Amahl

(boy, age 9-11), Page (boy, age 12-14), the mother, three Kings, and one dancer. In *The Gift of the Magi*, one newly married couple in their 20s-30s is needed. There will be three rehearsals in February, two rehearsals in March, two rehearsals in April, and then rehearsals resume in November. The first show of the 2011 season will be *Jane Eyre* in April. Visit www.leddycenter.org or call 679-2781 to schedule an audition.

• **New Frost Heaves:** New videos of the Frost Heaves, the funny sketch group from Peterborough, are now available at www.frostheaves.com. These clips show performances from some of the holiday shows. If they don't quite satisfy your appetite, then check out a show Friday, Jan. 21, or Saturday, Jan. 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the Peterborough Players Theatre, 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough.

• **Hawk soars in Warner:** Hawk Henries will perform Native American flute music on Friday, Jan. 7, at the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, 18 Highlawn Road, Warner. Henries was unaware of his Native American heritage until he was 17 and he met his father. Then he learned of his Nipmuc lineage. From there Henries began playing the flute, which he got as a gift. As he tried to master it he ultimately broke it. Unable to purchase a new one, he learned to fix it. This led him to making more flutes, which has become his passion. Admission to his concert is \$5 and proceeds will go to supporting operations and programming at the museum. Call 456-3244 or visit www.indianmuseum.org. —Adam Coughlin

Jan. 15, 3-6 p.m. at the Garrison Players Arts Center, Route 4 in Rollinsford. Call 516-4919 or visit www.garrisonplayers.org.

On stage

ART LISTINGS

Art events

• **FIRST THURSDAYS** The Currier Museum of Art is open late from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. first Thursday of each month with special programs including live music, lectures and film, at 150 Ash St., Manchester. Call 669-6144 ext. 108 or see www.currier.org for tickets.

• **POTTER'S BOWL** Community Caregivers sixth annual Potter's Bowl fundraiser will be held Fri., Feb. 4, 5-8 p.m. at Promises to Keep, Rt.28, Derry. Tickets cost \$30 and include a handcrafted pottery bowl. Tickets go on sale Jan. 4. Call 432-0877 or visit the Derry Masonic Temple, 58 E. Broadway, Derry.

Gallery openings and events.

• **50 UNDER 50** Fifty small works of art under \$50 on display through Jan. 30 at The Loading Dock Gallery, 122 Western Ave., Lowell, Mass. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There will be an opening reception on Fri., Jan. 7, 6-9 p.m. Visit www.theloadingdockgallery.com or call Maxine Farkas at 978-349-8069.

• **63rd ANNUAL MEMBERS EXHIBITION** will be on display Jan. 7 through Feb. 26 in the Sharon Arts Downtown Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough. Gallery hours are Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. There will be an opening reception on Fri., Jan. 7, 5-7 p.m. It is open to the public. Call 924-2787 or visit www.sharonarts.org.

• **HAND AND MOUSE** Work of three students from the NH Institute of Art will be featured in January at



Get ready to sing

Two open sings will be held by the Songweavers, the *a cappella* women's chorus of the Concord Community Music School. The open sings will kick off the 12-week spring session of

the chorus. The first will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 11, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. and the second will be on Wednesday, Jan. 12, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. All rehearsals will be held at the Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord. Young children are welcome to the morning session. Songweavers is open to women of all ages and musical experience. There are no auditions to join. There are 120 members in the choir, which learns songs by rote or memorization. As a result, reading music is not a prerequisite. Call 228-1196. Songweavers. Courtesy photo.

the Wine Studio, 53 Hooksett Road, Manchester. There will be an artist reception on Sat., Jan. 8, at 6 p.m. Call 622-9463 or visit www.thewinestudionh.com.

• **THE ART OF MY NATURE** work of Ron Plante will be on display Jan. 8 through Feb. 19 at the Massabesic Audubon Center, 16 Audubon Way, Auburn. There will be an opening reception on Sat., Jan. 8, 1-5 p.m. Call 224-9909 or visit www.nhaudubon.org.

• **JODI CLAYTON** January artist at Exeter Fine Crafts, 61 Water St., Exeter. Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. There will be an artist reception on Sat., Jan. 15, noon-3 p.m. Call 778-8282.

• **ART ON A STARRY NIGHT** Multi-artist exhibit on display from Jan. 14 through Feb. 25 at the Kimball Jenkins Estate, 266 North Main St., Concord. There will be an opening reception on Thurs., Jan. 20, 6-8 p.m. The event is free and open to

the public. Call 225-3932 or visit www.kimballjenkins.com.

• **NH ART ASSOCIATION 62nd CURRIER EXHIBITION** will run Jan. 29 through March 6 at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Museum hours are Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (free admission 10 a.m.-noon) and the first Thursday of each month, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Visit www.currier.org or call 669-6144.

• **LEONARD RAGOUZEOS & MICHAEL deMENG** work will be on exhibit Jan. 25 through March 4 at the New England College Gallery, 188 Foster Hill Road, Henniker. There will be a reception on Thurs., Feb. 10, 4-6 p.m. Gallery hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. and Friday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission is free. Call 428-2329 or visit www.nec.edu.

• **NEW HAMPSHIRE ART ASSOCIATION 62nd juried exhibi-**

Continued on page 19

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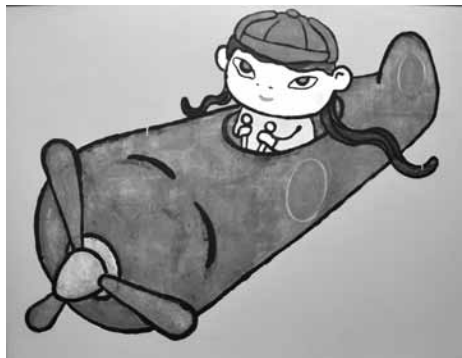
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Frank Santos Jr.
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Feb 5, 2011 at 7:30

603.668.5588
PALACETHEATRE.ORG

Manga for me and you

Exhibit fuses Japanese and American, modern and historic



“Little Kamikaze” by Yoshitomo Nara. Courtesy photo.

By Adam Coughlin
acoughlin@hippopress.com

The latest exhibit at the Portsmouth Museum of Art has helped define the future direction of the museum, according to its director. And the public seems very pleased with where the museum is heading.

“SugiPOP!: Anime, Manga, Comics and Their Influence on Contemporary Art” is an exhibit that not only celebrates the fusion between Japanese and American contemporary art but seeks to explain the history of this collaboration. The show is curated by Beau Basse of LeBasse Projects in Los Angeles and Katherine Doyle of the Portsmouth Museum of Art. John

Wolf is the assistant curator.

The works of 30 artists, both Japanese and American, are showcased and feature examples of anime, manga and comic art. These works can commonly be found in animated movies and comic books.

“There are big fans of comics and manga out there,” said Cathy Sununu, director of the Portsmouth Museum of Art. “We have presented the material in a historic way so even the biggest fans have something to learn. And for those who are not familiar, this is an interesting introduction. It has been well-received.”

With so much material to draw from and wanting to include works that highlighted monumental moments in the art form, the museum staffers had to do some research.

“We built the narrative first, then chose selected works that we believed made those points,” Sununu said. “Walk into any bookstore and there are shelves and shelves of manga. We chose key pieces that had significance.”

Japan has long been a country of fascination for westerners, and its rich history of art dates back centuries. But as the Portsmouth Museum of Art is focused on contemporary art, the exhibit begins in the 18th century and shows woodblock prints from such Japanese icons as Hokusai and Kuniyoshi. But, according to material provided by the museum, manga and anime exploded into the cultural norm following

World War II and the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As times were so tense, Japanese artists used these media for expression.

Many of these Japanese artists were influenced by American culture. For example, legendary animated filmmaker Hayao Miyazaki, who is most famous for his film *Spirited Away*, was greatly influenced by Walt Disney. Takashi Murakami, one of the world’s most sought-after artists, has his own studio factory and is known by many as today’s Andy Warhol.

A funny thing happened though as the world got smaller. Suddenly, Japanese art was influencing American artists. Adam Warren, whose work is on display, is one of the first American comic book writers to use the manga style.

“This exhibit is like a visual demonstration of where the world is going,” Sununu said. “There is an ongoing blend of cross-cultural connections and this is surely a good thing.”

This is evident in the title of the exhibit: “SugiPop!” “Sugi” is the Japanese word for “too much” and represents the extreme characteristics of the anime and manga styles. This is joined with American pop art to create SugiPop.

Culture isn’t the only area being blurred. So too is the line between commercial and fine art. Murakami, for example, designs products for Louis Vuitton and even cell phone caddies. He has gotten rich from the mass production of his work. Yet he also has pieces in the gallery at Versailles.

“A lot of these present-day artists don’t distinguish between these areas,” Sununu said. “They are blurring boundaries.”

The museum is not bound by the limits of visual art either. Sununu is always looking for ways to enhance the visitors’ experience. That is why the museum has activities and programs throughout the entirety of the exhibit, which runs until Jan. 16.

One such event is Kamishibai or Japanese Storytelling. As Sununu explained, the storytellers would ride their bikes to busy intersections where they would park, remove their portable theater and tell a story by using a series of hand-painted illustrations — basically, the first comic books. Sununu said Japanese-American Sam Asano comes into the museum and performs like an old-fashioned Kamishibaiya and shares tales from his own childhood.

“Every show is a learning experience,” Sununu said. “This exhibit is so different from what you normally get in this area. I think people now really understand what we want to do with contemporary art and get where the museum is headed, and this exhibit has put an exclamation point on it.”

“People are thrilled to come to New Hampshire,” Sununu said. “We just have to give them reasons to come here.”

The Portsmouth Museum of Art is at One Harbor Place in Portsmouth, 456-0332, www.portsmouthmfa.org.

bition will be held Jan. 29 through March 6 at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Call 669-6144 or visit www.currier.org.

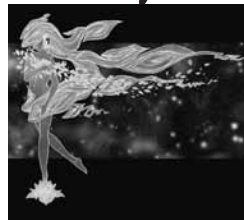
In the galleries

- **ART CENTER FACULTY EXHIBITION** on view through March 7 in the Currier Museum of Art’s Community Gallery, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Visit www.currier.org or call 669-6144.
- **CHRISTINE ROOK** January artist of the month at the Leach Library, 276 Mammoth Road, Londonderry. Call 432-1132 or visit www.londonderry.nh.org.
- **CORI CAPUTO** work will be on display through January at Le Club Boutique, 41 Vaughn Mall, Portsmouth. Visit www.coricaputo.com.
- **CORI CAPUTO** 20 works will be on display through Jan. 31 at the Portable Pantry’s Tasty Alternative Gallery, 12 Hanson St., Rochester. Visit www.coricaputo.com.
- **CROSSCURRENTS** Works by the faculty and selected alumni of Chester College will be on display at the Robert M. Larsen Gallery, 29 School St., Concord. Call 224-2341.
- **FRANK M. INGALLS** New permanent photography exhibit at the Florence Speare Museum, 5 Abbott St., Nashua. Call 883-0015.
- **GODFREY (JEFF) SLUDER** Work will be on display at the Forest Society’s Conservation Center, 54 Portsmouth St., Concord. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 224-9945.
- **HOME SWEET HOME** Multi-artist exhibit through Jan. 8 at the Manchester Artists Association Gallery, 1528 Elm St., Manchester. Visit www.manchester-artists.org or call 785-6437.
- **ILLUSTRATOR EXHIBIT** Work by several children’s book illustrators is on display at the Brush Gallery and

Artists Studio, 256 Market St., Lowell, Mass. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Visit www.thebrush.org or call 978-459-7819.

- **JACQUI HAWK** Artist’s work is on display at Stella Blu Restaurant, 70 East Pearl St., Nashua, 578-5557 through Feb. 20. Her work can also be seen at Salon 263 Fine Art Boutique, 263 Main St., Nashua, 594-9190.
- **LIGHT & DARK** Multi-artist exhibit on display through Jan. 14 at Art 3 Gallery, 44 West Brook St., Manchester. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 668-6650 or visit www.art3gallery.com.
- **MANCHESTER ARTS** website presented by the city arts commission, manchester-arts.org.
- **MARTY QUINN** Work will be on display through Jan. 8 at The Gallery at One Washington Center, 1 Washington St., Dover. Call 978-6702 or visit www.onewashingtoncenter.com.
- **MOLLY WENSBERG** work will be on display through Jan. 31 at the New Hampshire Antique Co-op, 323 Elm St./Route 101A, Milford. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m., daily. Call 673-8499.
- **NEWNESS** A three-woman show through Jan. 30 at artstream gallery, 56 North Main St., Rochester. Visit www.artstreamstudios.com or call 330-0333.
- **NO LAND HO** multi-artist exhibit will run through Jan. 9 at The Gallery, 100 Market St., Portsmouth. Call 436-2818.
- **OPEN STUDIO NIGHTS** third Thursdays, 6-9 p.m. at Verdigris Artisans, 88 N. Main St., Suite 205, Concord. www.verdigrisartisans.com.
- **PASTELS** by Nashua artist Pauline Dailey will be on display in the Image Gallery at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, free and open to the public. Call 589-4610.
- **PAULA FURLONG AND**

In a gallery near you



January. Their work has been described as “cutting edge and raw.” There will be an opening reception on Saturday, Jan. 8, at 6 p.m. Call 622-9463. Work of Aimee Cozza. Courtesy photo.

Young talent

The Wine Studio, 53 Hooksett Road, Manchester, will feature the work of three students from the New Hampshire Institute of Arts in an exhibit called “Hand and Mouse.” The work of Daniel Beauvais, Aimee Cozza and Sam Paolini will be on display through January. Their work has been described as “cutting edge and raw.” There will be an opening reception on Saturday, Jan. 8, at 6 p.m. Call 622-9463. Work of Aimee Cozza. Courtesy photo.

AUDREY AUGUN work will be on display through January at the Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis. The program is free and open to the public. Call 465-7721 or visit www.hollis.nh.us/library.

• **PAULA PESTANA** January artist of the month at the Wilton Gregg Free Library, 7 Forest Road, Wilton. Call 654-2581 or visit www.wiltonlibrary.nh.org.

• **PRECIOUS** Smaller works for sale through Jan. 21 at Soo Rye Art Gallery, 11 Sagamore Road, Rye. Call 319-1578 or visit www.soorye.com.

• **SOME OF MY FAVORITE THINGS** New exhibit by the Hollis Arts Society will be held through January at the Greater Nashua Mental Health Center at Community Council, 100 West Pearl St., Nashua. Gallery hours are weekdays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., unless a meeting is in progress. Call Pat Hurd at 882-1503.

• **SUGIPOP!** Anime, Manga, Comics and Their Influence on Contemporary Art will run through Jan. 16 at the Portsmouth Museum of Art, 1 Harbour Place, Portsmouth. Hours are Wed.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is free. Call 436-0332 or e-mail info@portsmouthmfa.org.

• **THE SECRET LIFE OF ART** will be on view through Jan. 9 at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. This exhibition, drawn from key works in the museum, is designed to help new audiences find comfortable avenues to access the content in the Currier’s art collections based upon their own experience. Visit www.currier.org or call 669-6144 x108.

• **THE WORLD THROUGH MY EYES** photography exhibit by Josh Hutchins on display through January at the UNH Center for Graduate & Professional Studies, 286 Commercial St., Manchester, 4th floor. Visit www.unhm.unh.edu.

• **TRANSFORMATION** Photographic work of David MacEachran and Alicia Bergeron on display at Silver Light Gallery, 28 Main St., Suite 2, Goffstown. Visit www.silverhillsstudio.com or call 497-4674.

• **WILD AND WARY WAYS** work of Rachel B. Hayes will be on display in the Picture Gallery, 39 Saint Gaudens Road, Cornish, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call 675-2175 or visit www.nps.gov/saga.

• **WINTER LIGHTS III** Multi-artist show on display through Jan. 2 at The Loading Dock Gallery at Western Avenue Studios, 122 Western Avenue, 2nd

In a gallery near you



Members gather

The 63rd Annual Members Exhibition will be on display Jan. 7 through Feb. 26 at Sharon Arts Downtown Exhibition Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough. The exhibition will feature more than 250 works of fine art and crafts from artists from throughout the Monadnock region and beyond. There will be an opening reception on Friday, Jan. 7, from 5 to 7 p.m., open to the public. Regular gallery hours are Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit www.sharonarts.org. “Good Day” by Mary Iselin. Courtesy photo.

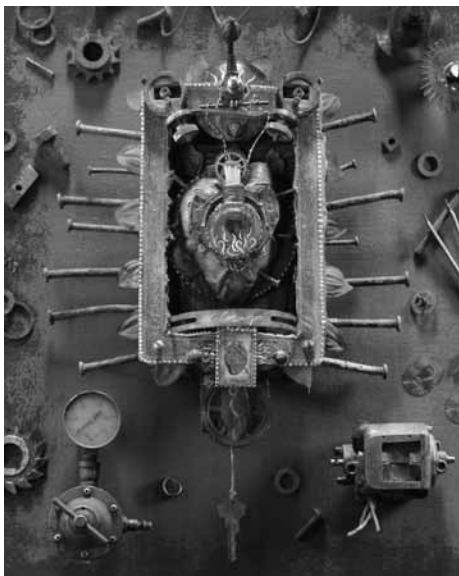
floor in the A Mill. Visit www.loadingdockgallery.com or call 978-349-8069.

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

- **THE MERRIMACK CHORUS** meets Sundays 7-9 p.m. at the John O’Leary Adult Community Center, 4 Church St., Merrimack. Call Choral Director Jamie Saucier at 828-6739.
- **THE MERRIMACK CONCERT BAND** meets on Tuesdays 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the Merrimack Middle School band room, 31 Madeline Bennett Drive, Merrimack. Call Band Director Lelia Dutton at 429-8328.
- **THE TEXAS TENORS** America’s Got Talent finalists will perform on Thurs., Jan. 6, at 8 p.m. at Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass. Tickets cost \$27.50, \$37.50 and \$47.50. Visit www.lowellauditorium.com or call 978-454-2299.
- **BACH’S LUNCH LECTURE** will be held Thursdays, 12:10-12:50 p.m. at the Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord. On Thurs., Jan. 6, Music and Meditation; Thurs., Jan. 13, From the Contemplative to the Ecstatic: Music of

Satie, Berio, Schumann & Scriabin. The event is free and open to the public. Visit www.ccmusicschool.org.

- **HAWK HENRIES** Native American Flute concert will be held on Fri., Jan. 7, at 7 p.m. at the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, 18 Highlawn Road, Warner. Admission costs \$5. Visit www.indianmuseum.org or visit www.hawkhenries.com.
- **TWELFTH NIGHT CONCERT** Mary Beth Hallinan and Chaz Beaulieu will perform on Fri., Jan. 7 at 7 p.m. at the Mariposa Museum & World Culture Center, 26 Main St., Peterborough. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 924-4555.
- **SONGWEAVERS OPEN SING** Songweavers, the a cappella women’s chorus of the Concord Community Music School, opens its 12-week spring session with Open Sings on Tues., Jan. 11, 7:30-9 p.m. and Wed., Jan. 12, 9:30-11 a.m. Songweavers is open to women of all ages and musical experience. Call 228-1196 or e-mail ckaplan@ccmusic-school.org.
- **DAVID COFFIN** New England’s own “Shanty Man,” will hold a workshop on Sea Shanty and Whaling Songs



Work of Michael deMeng. Courtesy photo.

LOCAL COLOR

ed artists at The Gallery at New England College, 98 Bridge St., Henniker. “Leonard Ragouzeos: Ink Paintings” and “Michael deMeng: Diablos and Detablos” will be on display from Jan. 25 through March 4 with an artist reception on Thursday, Feb. 10, 4-6 p.m. Ragouzeos spent his career teaching at universities in Pennsylvania and Iowa but now calls Vermont home. He said he enjoys working on a larger scale because it makes the painting process become more physical and experimental. deMeng is the author of two books, *Secrets of Rusty Things*, *Transforming Found Objects into Art* and most recently *Dusty Diablos*, which is based on his numerous trips to Mexico. Gallery hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 11 a.m.-6 p.m. and Friday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 428-2329 or visit www.nec.edu.

• **New grant:** The State Council on the Arts is now offering a new funding category for grants. The General Project Grant is designed to support both ongoing and new art projects, which can include concerts, workshops or even demonstrations at local festivals. Requests may be made for amounts between \$750 and \$3,000 but grants must be matched on a one-to-one basis. But new for Fiscal Year 2011 only is that in-kind contributions may be one half of the required match. While this grant seems good, it is a testament to diminished resources. In fact, the grant is broad because it is replacing several other more specific grants. So artists who used to seek funding in grant categories like Community Arts grants, mini grants or American Masterpieces: NH Inspirations should now seek assistance from the General Project Grant. Visit www.nh.gov/nharts/grants/projectgrantgen.htm or call Catherine O’Brian at 271-0795. —*Adam Coughlin*

• **New classes:** The Studio of Photographic Arts, SOPHA, 15 Merrill St., Manchester, is offering two new classes this January: Advanced Photoshop and The Business of Photography. The latter class is interesting as many people are avid photographers but don’t know how to turn their passion into a profession. This class will discuss planning and logistics and the importance of having a business plan. It will also talk about how to set fees so that you earn enough to stay in business but can also remain competitive. The class will be taught by SOPHA founder Bud Thorpe and is scheduled for Wednesdays, Jan. 12, 19 & 26, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. The class costs \$199. Visit www.thesopha.com or call 584-1492.

• **Ragouzeos and deMeng on display:** The new year begins with a duo of talent-

on Sat., Jan. 15, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord. Pre-registration is due Jan. 4. E-mail hiddenwonders@gmail.com. Call 228-1196 or visit www.ccmusicschool.org.

• **THE SUNCOOK VALLEY CHORALE** will perform its winter concert on Sat., Jan. 15, at 7 p.m. and Sun., Jan. 16, at 3 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 177 N. Main St., Concord. Tickets cost \$15 and \$12 for seniors and students. Call 774-3751 or visit scvn.org.

• **SET THE HOUSE ON FIRE** A gospel concert will be held on Mon., Jan. 17, at 7 p.m. at the Newington Town Hall, 205 Nimble Hill Road, Newington. Tickets cost \$15 or \$12 for military, students and seniors. Call 436-2242.

• **BRAHMS MEETS GERSHWIN** will be performed on Wed., Jan. 19, 12:10-12:50 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church, 106 Lowell St., Manchester. The concert is free and open to the public. Visit www.mcmusicschool.org or call 644-4548.

• **THE APPLE STRING QUARTET** will perform on Fri., Jan. 21, at 7:30 p.m. at High Mowing School, 22 Isaac Frye Hwy, Wilton. Suggested donation is \$15 and proceeds will benefit High Mowing’s David Anderson Music Fund and the Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music. Call 654-6588 or visit www.highmowing.org.

• **JAZZ IN JANUARY** will be held on Fri., Jan. 21, 7 and 9 p.m. at the Concord Community Music School,

On stage



Ring in the new year

Mary Beth Hallinan and Chaz Beaulieu will perform a concert of seasonal music throughout the ages called “Twelfth Night Concert” on Friday, Jan. 7, at 7 p.m. at the Mariposa Museum & World Culture Center, 26 Main St., Peterborough. Hallinan plays the piano, flute and penny whistle in addition to providing vocals, while Beaulieu performs on the flute, penny whistle and percussion. They will feature their repertoire of Celtic, classical, traditional and original music. Special guests will join the duo for several numbers. Before the concert starts, from 6 to 7 p.m. there will be a reception for the new gallery exhibit “Textiles from Laos, Vietnam and Thailand.” All First Friday events are free and open to the public. Call 924-4555. Mary Beth Hallinan. Courtesy photo.

23 Wall St., Concord. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors. Visit ccmusicschool.org.

• **OPEN SING NIGHTS** The Suncook Valley Chorale will hold two non-audition, open sing nights for new and current Chorale members on Mon., Jan. 24, and Mon., Jan. 31, at 7 p.m. at the Pleasant View Retirement Center Theatre, 227 Pleasant St., Concord. Visit www.svn.org or call 774-3751.

• **BARBARA BONNEY** will sing on Sun., Jan. 30, at 2 p.m. in the Paul Creative Arts Center’s Johnson Theatre in Durham. Visit www.unh.edu/celebrity or call 862-2290.

• **GSSO PRINCIPALS IN JANUARY** The Granite State Symphony Orchestra will perform on Sun., Jan. 30, at 2 p.m. at Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Tickets cost \$7-\$33. Visit www.gssso.org or call 226-4776.

• **THE VIRTUOSO VIOLIN** Elliott Markow and Elizabeth Blood will perform on Wed., Feb. 16, 12:10-12:50 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church, 106 Lowell St., Manchester. The concert is free and open to the public. Visit www.mcmusicschool.org or call 644-4548.

Manchester Artists Association
Gallery

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Hours: Wed, Fri, Sat. 10-4 Thurs. 10-7:30

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5:00-8:00 pm
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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

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From yoga to pilates, cooking to languages to activities for the kids, Hippo's weekly listing offers a rundown of all area events and classes. Get your program listed by sending information to listings@hippopress.com at least three weeks before the event.

New Hampshire learns

More classes than you can handle



Students in the archery class offered at CCE in Concord, Courtesy photo.

By **Tori Loubier**
tloubier@hippopress.com

Actor Bill Cosby and Wendy's founder Dave Thomas are both GED graduates.

GED, which stands for General Education Development, is a group of five subject tests which, when passed, certify that the taker has high school-level academic skills.

In 2008, 1,573 people passed the GED test in New Hampshire, according to the New Hampshire Bureau of Adult Education.

"It's a second chance," said Art Ellison, the Bureau's administrator. "With the exception of those who cannot speak English, we provide a second chance to high school dropouts."

Since 1980, Ellison and the bureau have provided opportunities for more than 20,000 adults to become educated with a high school diploma, receive their GED or learn to speak English.

"People go back to school or get their GED for a number of reasons. Most of the time, they need a job. We have a lot of people who have been working for a long time and the company decides that now everyone needs a GED or high school diploma, even if they've been there for 25 years. In order to keep their job, they have to go back to school," Ellison said.

In the past year, almost 8,000 people have enrolled in for-credit community education courses, said Ellison.

The Bureau lists locations throughout New Hampshire that offer Adult Basic Education classes, which cover basic skills in reading writing and math; GED prep courses; GED testing centers; Adult High School, including classes to earn credit for an adult high school diploma; Adult Learner Services, a regional program, with tutoring and small classes; ESOL, or classes in English for speakers of other languages; and CT, a college transition program for adult education graduates. The list can be found at www.nhadult-ed.org/locations/index.html.

Enrichment courses are a large part of adult and community education. Concord Community Education (CCE) is one of the oldest non-credit public education programs in New Hampshire. CCE offers both credit and non-credit courses, and its mid-year sessions begin Feb. 7.

CCE offers 100 different classes, with an extensive list of fun enrichment courses such as Art of Tea, Gluten-Free Cooking and How to Decoratively Paint a Wall, as well as academic courses including Biology, Chemistry, Computer Skills and Foreign Languages. CCE also offers driver education and other youth programs.

Courses at CCE can last for anywhere from one to 15 weeks, said Jeff Siegel, the director of CCE. "A lot of the people that enroll in these enrichment courses are just looking for a fun night out. They want to do something with a friend or a spouse. I mean, we offer six ballroom dance classes, it's fun," Siegel said.

Enrichment courses are non-credit and are generally taken to enhance a skill set needed at work or just out of plain desire for a new hobby.

For some, it can be as simple as spending time with their family.

"There are other reasons, like parents who come in because they want to be able to read to their kids. Their reading levels are so low that they can read to their first- and second-grader, but after that it's above and beyond them," said Ellison. "We've had some wonderful stories at the end of the year with the graduation program where the mother, father and child graduate at the same time because it became a family

endeavor."

CCE is always looking for new, innovative course subjects. "We have a lot of people who come to us and say, 'I noticed you aren't offering such-and-such, and I teach such-and-such-'...we always invite that," Siegel said.

Enrollment in enrichment and credit courses in New Hampshire has gone up 11 percent in the past year, according to Ellison. This is especially due to the recent recession. "Whenever unemployment is up, our enrollment is up. People have more time on their hands," he said, adding that they are also looking for more work-related skills or a GED or diploma to help broaden their job prospects.

"Another service that people don't know about is [Concord's] large refugee population," Siegel said. "In the past five to 10 years we have seen a lot more diversity in our population. [In response, it's important to know that] we have English language classes and driving classes."

Take classes!

Most registration begins in early February.

- **Adult Learning Center** 4 Lake St., Nashua, 882-9080, www.adultlearningcenter.org. Offers basic skills, GED preparation, English for speakers of other languages, adult learner services, computer technology, GED testing, college prep and foreign language.
- **Adult Learning Center** 40 Arlington St., Nashua, 598-8303, www.adultlearningcenter.org. See above.
- **Concord Community Education** Concord High School, 170 Warren St., Concord, 225-0804, www.classesforlife.com. Offers high school diploma and enrichment courses.
- **Manchester Adult Education** 530 S. Porter St., Manchester, 624-6490, www.manchesternh.gov. Offers adult high school diploma, adult basic education, GED prep and testing, ESL and an evening electrical and plumbing apprenticeship program.
- **Second Start** 17 Knight St., Concord, 228-1341, www.second-start.org. Offers adult education classes, ESL, college prep for adults, adult learner services, GED testing.

CHILDREN & TEENS

Events

- **CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS** Registration is now open at the Rodgers Memorial Library for children's spring programs ages birth – 5th grade. Programs begin the week of Jan. 24. Library card and pin number needed to register. Visit www.rodgerslibrary.org, click on "children". Call the library 886-6030 with questions or to get a pin number.
- **SCRABBLE NIGHTS** in the music/art/media wing at Nashua Public Library, Thursdays, Jan. 6 and Feb. 3, 7-9 p.m. Bring a partner or meet new opponents. Bring a board if possible. Visit www.nashualibrary.org or call Carol at 589-4610.
- **MOVIES AND MORE** Laconia Public Library, 695 Main St., Laconia, Fri., Jan. 7, 3:45 p.m. showing *Despicable Me* (PG). Admission is free. Children under 10 years must be accompanied by a responsible caregiver 14 years or older. Call 524-4775 x 13.
- **FREE FAMILY NIGHT** Children's Museum of NH, 6 Washington St., Dover, Fri., Jan. 7; Fri., Feb. 4; Fri., March 4, 5:30-8 p.m. Musuem is open to all families for free. Call 742-2002.

- **CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS PARTY** Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester, Thurs., Jan. 13, 4 p.m. For grades 3-5. Refreshments served. Call 624-6550 ext. 335.
- **BOOKS ALIVE: A VISIT FROM MAX THE BUNNY** Children's Museum of NH, 6 Washington St., Dover, Sat., Jan. 15, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. A literacy program that brings favorite children's book characters into the museum. Children will meet Max, the bunny from the Max and Ruby stories by Rosemary Wells. Museum staff will be reading Max and Ruby stories aloud in the museum's Deep Sea Classroom, and children can enjoy other hands-on learning activities. Bring your camera to take pictures. Entertainer Sammie Haynes will also entertain visitors with songs at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. All festivities are included with paid admission and free for members. Call 742-2002.

CRAFTS

Sewing

- **DROP-IN STITCHERS** on Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon, at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road (Route 102), Hudson. Work on knitting, crocheting, cross-stitch-

- ing or any other needlework project with company, and pass the time while sharing ideas and techniques for future work. Call 886-6030.
- **LEVESQUE SEWING MACHINE** (1261 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 645-1661, levesquesewvac.com) offers classes from beginner to advanced in sewing and quilting. Classes are scheduled according to demand; call to find out about availability.
- **MERRI STITCHES** (72 Mirona Road, Portsmouth, 431-9922; 58 Range Road, Windham, 685-0185, merristitches.com) offers classes and workshops, as well as a sit and sew. Visit the Website for a schedule at each store.
- **NASHUA SEW AND VAC** (228 DW Highway, Nashua, 888-2757 nashuasewandvac.com) offers classes in quilting and sewing, including classes for children.
- **NEW ENGLAND FABRICS** (55 Ralston St., Keene, 352-8683, newenglandfabrics.com) has offered classes in sewing, knitting, quilting and more. Call for schedule.
- **NH ACADEMY OF SEWING** (Canterbury, 783-9270, nhacademyofsewing.com) offers classes covering all aspects of gar-

ment sewing, pattern fitting, pattern drafting, and fit; classes range from learning to sew to making a garment. Private lessons are also available.

- **PEGGY ANNE'S QUILTING AND SEWING** (57 North Main St., Concord, 223-2344, peggyannes.com) offers classes on quilting, sewing and more. See schedule on Website now.

LANGUAGE

- **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE** at Two Bedford Farms, Bedford. Three different courses beginning in January. Visit www.teachmesignlanguage.com for a list of courses. Kids and adult classes available. Registration required. Call Michelle MacNevin at 508-944-7831. Cost is \$60, all materials included. Save \$10 for every person you refer.
- **MULTIPLE LANGUAGES** Concord Community Education (170 Warren St., 225-0804, classesforlife.com) regularly offers courses in languages.
- **MULTIPLE LANGUAGES** "I Can Speak" language-learning software is

Continued on page 32

GARDENING GUY

Gardening resolutions

Weed the onions and savor the strawberries



Himalayan Blue poppy. Henry Homeyer photo.

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

Each year at this time I like to make some resolutions about what I'm going to do differently in the garden. This year e-mailed my former students at Granite State College (I teach a course on sustainable gardening there) and some other gardening friends to see what their resolutions might be.

First, my own: I will weed my onions early and often. This year I did not, and weeds took over the onion patch, severely reducing my crop. Onions have shallow root systems. Once the weeds get big, it is easy to damage the roots of onions when you pull the weeds. Even the experts have troubles. My friend Wendy Sue, who is a technical assistance advisor for Northeast Organic Farmers Association of Vermont (www.nofavt.org), wrote, "Timing is everything. I seem to need to re-learn this one each year!" She went on to lament planting her squash too soon after turning in a cover crop of rye — you must wait two full weeks, she said, or your plants won't thrive.

My friend Eliza says that next summer she will only grow her delicata squash on mounded raised beds. This past summer she did so for the first time and got much better results than in past summers — 15 squash from two plants. She says that it appears they like the extra compost she added when making the mounded beds.

Mary, who gets my column each week by e-mail in Denmark, said, "This year I am going to start my own plants and not buy them." And she noted that this year she would get her garden planted in time. Good idea!

Julian, a landscaping friend, explained that he planted lots of bare-root fruit trees this year, but he didn't make sure the owners watered enough. The result? Trees on hills dried out and suffered or died, while trees planted "on the flat" where there was more moisture did fine. Next year, he will either set up irrigation for new trees, or plant them where the soil stays lightly moist.

I liked this simple one from my friend Liz (www.fabulousplants.com): "Next year I am going to sit right down in my strawberry patch and eat fresh sun warmed strawberries — and I am going to very slowly savor each juicy bite."

A wise reader, Ann, and her husband Richard, bought a new house this year and made this resolution: "Sit on our hands and record seasonal changes with photos to see what the landscape wants/needs to do. Build compost bins to begin soil building with woodland foliage & small branches. Remove invasives; nurture the native trees, shrubs, perennials, and ornamental grasses. Build the "bones of a vegetable garden" and plant green crops to enrich the soil for the following spring. Sitting on our hands will be—most like—

ly—the greatest challenge."

A former student of mine, David, said, "I need to be careful where my compost comes from. The compost that I used was aged two years; the problem with it however was that it was riddled with small to medium sized rocks that weren't so obvious until in the garden. Secondly I'm going to try covering the soil next season and avoid endless hours of weeding."

Speaking of mulch, reader Diana wrote, "What I tried this year and it was a great success was putting weed barrier under my cabbage plants. It not only kept the weeds down, but I had nary one bug on them. It was the most beautiful and tasty cabbage ever. It does cost more than straw but I use a lot of cabbage and it was the best. I harvested my last around Thanksgiving."

Another student, Mary Beth, wrote, "I bought enough cages for all of my tomato plants. As my tomato plants grew, I had a hard time keeping them contained inside the cages. As the fruit grew, some of them rubbed against the metal. With my plants being in full sunlight, the metal became hot and made burn spots on my tomatoes. It didn't affect the flavor but made it difficult to peel them to can. I will be going back to using grade stakes and yarn next year."

Anne (who always paid attention in class) wrote that "The best and most important thing I learned is that the soil is EVERYTHING!" She will add compost each spring and fall, and also resolved "To thin the carrots and beets even though pulling up those baby plants is hard to do."

And her fellow student, Marta, wrote that she "learned not to plant so many things. We planted a lot of different things and they used up too much space. Decide what you really enjoy the most — things that you want to be able to pick fresh every day."

Garden guru Kathy wrote, "I will once again plant my vegetable garden with fall meals in mind: Sweet potatoes and butternut squash for October, November and December. More kale for picking fresh from September through December. More cold-hardy greens (spinach, arugula and cilantro) to be covered with fabric and picked fresh September-November."

David of www.greenyankee.com wrote that, "The last mowing of the backyard this year purposefully included un-raked leaves. I discovered the mixture makes a light, fluffy 'garden meringue' and will serve beautifully as a winter blanket for the garden beds. Since my lawnmower has a collection bag, I simply emptied it on the beds and tossed the extra on the compost pile. In one fell swoop, I mowed the lawn, 'raked' the leaves, insulated my beds, and fed my compost pile before winter.

But perhaps my favorite came from my friend Suzie in Connecticut, who sent a long essay describing her mid-summer dismay about her "wild, weedy" flower garden which she perceived as out of control — until a friend insisted that it was beautiful, every bit of it. She then realized that she didn't have to control every aspect of it and allowed herself to enjoy flowers — and even weeds and wildflowers — that popped up as volunteers. "Suddenly I saw beauty everywhere."

So whatever your garden does, enjoy it! Plant new kinds of veggies, try different flowers, and take time to enjoy the flowers. My best to you all for 2011.

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LIVE FREE AND SHOP

Makeup trends for the new year

On tinted moisturizer and red lips

By Tori Loubier
tloubier@hippopress.com

The number-one makeup product to have in the winter, according to Andrea Ducharme of The Makeup Artists in Boston, is tinted moisturizer. "It gives your face texture, makes you look healthy and, you know, doubles as a moisturizer."

"Winter skin needs something on top of it to protect it. You should be switching your moisturizer into something creamier and more rich [than the rest of the year]," said Ducharme, advising to stay away from powders during the colder months because they tend to make skin look dull and dry and reveal any unwanted flakes on the face. She also advises against using warm water to wash your face because it takes away natural oils.

When applying moisturizer, Ducharme advises a technique she calls the five-dot format.

"Use your ring finger to tap on five dots around your face [the forehead, each cheek, nose and chin] and then use that same finger to rub it around," she said. "When you use your whole hand, you're basically just rubbing everything off."

Ducharme likes Revlon ColorStay Light Makeup, which is sheer and has an SPF of 15.

For the right colors in colder times, Ducharme suggests staying away from safe neutrals.

"If you buy a creamier, deeper tone [for blush or eye shadow], you can put less on and still get a glow. With neutral colors it will never build up. It's easier to take a bright one and just sheer it down," she said.

"Red lips will never go away. It's so classic," Ducharme said. But with any trend, it's important to customize. "If a client wants bright red lips but she has a smaller mouth, I'll do a sheer version and make it glossy so they look fuller."

According to Ducharme, the average woman spends just five minutes getting ready in the morning. The process should be simple and you need only five products to make it happen: a tinted moisturizer, deep cheek color, mascara, lip gloss and concealer to go under your eye.

As far as trends go, makeup follows patterns similar to those of clothing: "It has everything to do with what fashion designers are putting out there and how they create their looks. It takes a long time to create a color story, and



The Chanel Holiday 2010 look. Photo courtesy Andrea Ducharme.

it leaves the customer with two schools of thought: What they are seeing in the magazines and what they are seeing in the store."

There are four basic trends happening in makeup this 2010/2011 season:

1. Monochromatic, neutral makeup including brown and sepia undertones. This look is "very pretty and classic," Ducharme said, adding that this look is reflected by timeless designers such as Calvin Klein.

2. 1950s pin-up, a look heavily influenced by popular TV show *Mad Men*. "These girls are perfectly painted, somewhat matte, have creamy red lips and a soft eye with liner on the bottom and mascara up top," said Ducharme. "It's extremely feminine and any woman can pull it off." For this trend, Ducharme suggests Stila Cherry Crush Lip and Cheek Stain usually found at Sephora-type stores, because it's "very wearable."

3. A smoky gray eye and a nude or peach-tinted lip.

4. The modern movie star, a look that consists of cat-like eyeliner that wings out at the top and bottom, paired with a glossy and nude lip. Ducharme calls this look "anti-aging and flattering on anyone."

To find a balance between what's "fashionable" and what is right for you, Ducharme offers this advice: "Think about what you're comfortable with, then push it just a little bit. It's makeup; just try it."

available at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, nashualibrary.org) for Spanish, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Russian and Portuguese. The software consists of 20 to 40 hours of intro material using listening, speaking, reading and writing exercises.

• **MULTIPLE LANGUAGES ONLINE** at Rodgers Memorial Library, Derry Road, Hudson. Mango Language Learning System teaches foreign language (Spanish, French, Italian, German, Japanese, Chinese, and Russian) and ESL conversational skills. Can visit library or log on from home through the library's website at www.rodgerslibrary.org. Call 886-6030.

• **MULTIPLE LANGUAGES**

ONLINE at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford. Includes Arabic, Spanish, Russian, Haitian Creole, French, Irish and Greek. Free for library cardholders. Call 673-2408 or visit www.wadleighlibrary.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

• **FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS SEMINAR** Harbor Homes, 45 High St., Nashua, Monday, Jan. 10 and Weds., Jan. 12, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Provides a program to learn about the home buying process and the responsibilities of home ownership. Free and open to public. Reserve a spot by calling 1-800-640-7239.

• **A TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.** First Baptist Church of Nashua, 121 Manchester St., Nashua, Sat., Jan. 15, 6 p.m. Keynote speaker

Rev. Dr. Paul G Gillespie, a retired activist American baptist minister. Includes music from local gospel choirs. Refreshments will be served after the celebration. Child-care provided. Call 882-4512 or visit www.fbcnashua.org.

• **HOME ENERGY SOLUTIONS** with Karen Cramton of Nashua Energy Options, in the library meeting room at Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis, Weds., Jan. 26 and Feb. 2, 7-8:30 p.m. Jan. 26 meeting will be on energy-efficient water heating options; Feb. 2 will be on solar hot water.

SPORTS & RECREATION

Ice Skating

• **ICE SKATING LESSONS** Concord Dept. of Recreation, Concord.

Continued on page 34

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Treasure hunt

An antiques expert helps you search for buried treasure

Hi, Donna,

I am looking for some information regarding an old lithograph I have. It is a Norman Rockwell "The Doctor and The Doll" print in an old frame. Any idea of the value or age? It says Curtis Publishing Co., copyright 1972, published by Donald Art Co. NY NO NR21, Lithograph in USA. It appears to be printed on some type of canvas, which is in great shape. I have attached a few pictures.

Sue in New Hampshire



Dear Sue,

Let's start off with the Curtis Publishing Co. Most people will be more familiar with it as The Saturday Evening Post, which was founded in the late 1700s. It was purchased in 1908 by a gentleman named Cyrus Curtis.

The Curtis Publishing Co. was very successful because of all the top illustrators and writers it employed. One famous one we all know is Norman Rockwell. He was with The Saturday Evening Post for 50 years creating many famous covers.

I couldn't find out much about the Donald Art Co. I do know they did a lot of reproductions lithographs of original prints. Their value seems to be rather low. I found a Norman Rockwell one similar to yours and it was in the \$20 range.

It can be very confusing to determine which item you really have. Some of Norman Rockwell's original lithographs can go into the thousands of dollars, but there were so many companies that reproduced his work

that unfortunately the reproductions don't have a lot of value because there are so many around, even from the 1970s.

As far as its being on canvas, that was to make it look like an original painting. It is just a print applied to canvas. But I have seen other types of this done and sometimes they do look very real. This process goes back even into the Victorian era.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (www.fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser, an instructor, a licensed auctioneer and a member of the N.H. Antiques Dealers Association. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or e-mail her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

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Kiddie Pool

Family fun this weekend

Museum fun

• Families get in free at the Children's Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington St., Dover, on Friday, Jan. 7, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Call 742-2002.

• As always, admission to the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St. in Manchester, 669-6144, www.currier.org, is free for children under 18 but on Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon, admission is also free for everyone else. From 10 a.m.

to 1 p.m. the museum offers family activities including a family tour of the museum and a drop-in art-making workshop.

Get some exercise

• Kids ages 6-11 can learn how to ski cross-country with the Concord Recreation **ski league**, on Fridays beginning Jan. 7. Children are required to have their own equipment. Visit www.concordnh.gov. recreation or call 225-8690.

• Learn how to dance **hip-hop** at the Green Street Community Center, Concord, starting Saturday, Jan. 8, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Participants will learn to move their body with confidence and develop hip-hop rhythm.

• Bring the whole crew to the **family nature outing** at Maple Hill Farm, 117 Ridge Road, Hollis, Sunday, Jan. 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. Explore winter fields and forests. Free. Call 465-7787.

Spectator

• **HARLEM WIZARD GAME** Trick basketball game to benefit Stephen Cmar Scholarship Fund at Bow High School, Weds., Jan. 12, 7 p.m. \$10 students, \$12 adults, available at www.harlmewizards.com or by calling 224-6644.

• **BATTLES OF THE BADGES** NH firefighters vs. NH police ice hockey tournament at the Verizon Wireless Arena, Manchester, Sunday, March 28. Fundraiser for the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Children's Hospital. Call 650-3437 and visit www.CHaDkids.org

Applications for the first session of ice skating are accepted on a first come first serve basis as space is limited. Register at the White Park office, by mail, online or by fax. Visit www.concordnh.gov/recreation or call 225-8690.

• **ICE SKATING LESSONS** at Magic Blades, Tilton School Ice Arena, Mondays, 6-7 p.m. Lessons include one half hour of instruction and one half hour of practice on the ice. It is never too late to register. Tuition is \$75. To register call Barbara Adams at 744-9872, or just show up to the arena on Monday before 6

p.m. to fill out an application. E-mail magic.blades@yahoo.com.

• **STICK AND PUCK** West Side Arena, Manchester, Mon.-Fri., 9 -11 a.m. \$7 per player, goalies free. 30-player limit.

• **PUBLIC SKATING** at Manchester Park & Rec Dept., 625 Mammoth Rd., Manchester, Jan. 8, 2-4 p.m., Jan. 9, 2:15-4:15 p.m., Jan. 15, 2-4 p.m., Jan. 16, 2:15-4:15 p.m., Jan. 17, 2-4 p.m. Continues thru March. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. Skate rentals are available for \$5 a pair.

CAR TALK BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

Cause of explosion might be broken connecting rod



Dear Tom and Ray:
I have a 1999 Camry CE that is maintained on a regular basis. Since I am a senior citizen, the annual mileage is about 3,000 miles per year. Yesterday the car was parked in a garage for about one hour. I returned and turned on the ignition. After one minute, I saw on the panel the oil and electrical red symbols. Then I heard an explosion. The car did not move or shake. I turned off the ignition, got out and saw oil leaking onto the ground under the front hood. I also saw two huge bolts and three heavy metal pieces. I then called AAA for a tow to my mechanic. My mechanic could not explain the cause of this explosion. He said it is a one-in-a-million incident since the car has only 43,000 miles on it. What is your theory of what happened? I would appreciate an immediate reply. I am concerned about this event, since I am having a used engine installed next week with 85,000 miles on it. Could it happen again? Thank you! — Beatrice

TOM: Wow! That's exciting, Beatrice. No one at bingo is going to top THAT story this week.

RAY: I have to guess that a connecting rod broke. The connecting rods connect the pistons to the crankshaft and transfer the power that's produced by the detonations in the cylinders.

TOM: A thrown rod would explain everything. It would explain the explosive sound, which was the connecting rod bursting through your oil pan or the engine block. It would explain the oil, which then leaked out. It would explain the bolts, which came from the connecting rod. And it would explain why you now need a new engine.

RAY: I think this was Toyota's fault. Your mechanic is right, this is highly unusual. This almost never happens on cars with 43,000 miles on them -- certainly not on cars that have been well maintained and had their oil changed regularly.

TOM: And normally there are warning signs. You'll get engine noise or a knocking sound, or blue smoke coming out the tailpipe leading up to the failure. Is it possible you didn't notice the signs?

RAY: But Toyota did have a problem with these engines getting "gelled," or "sludged," with oil, which can lead to poor oil circulation — and eventually to no oil circulation. That can lead to your exact problem. In fact, a number of sludged Toyota engines failed in exactly the way you describe, by throwing a connecting rod.

TOM: The good news is that Toyota recognized this problem, and extended the warranty for this problem for all affected Toyota engines built between 1997 and 2002.

RAY: The bad news is that it extended

the warranty to eight years, and you're well beyond that now.

TOM: Nonetheless, I think it's worth a call to Toyota's customer assistance line (888-802-9436). Explain your situation — that you've got only 43,000 miles on the car, and you've maintained it regularly. Who knows? Maybe they'll feel guilty (especially in light of their recent quality-control problems) and help you out.

RAY: If not, then I'd go ahead and replace the engine. Just ask your mechanic to check for signs of sludge or oil gelling in the valve train. Even if it looks clean, be sure to change the oil every 3,000 miles, just to be safe. You may even want him to switch you over to a synthetic oil. If you do that, you should get many more miles out of this car -- with fewer engine explosions. Good luck, Beatrice.

Dear Tom and Ray:

I have a great, wonderful, sweet co-worker who may be as wacky as a loon. It was 0 degrees Fahrenheit last week, and she refused to use her rear defroster, claiming it would shatter her rear window. Who is wacko here? Her, for this wacko theory, or me, for not believing her? — Matt

RAY: It depends how cute she is, Matt.

TOM: Actually, we know she's wrong about the rear window. Car manufacturers are well aware that their vehicles will occasionally be used in temperatures below 0 degrees.

And I've never seen a warning not to use a rear defroster under those conditions. In fact, those are exactly the kinds of conditions that the rear defroster is made for.

RAY: There are several reasons why the rear window won't break. First of all, the defroster's wires, which are embedded in the window, do not produce an enormous amount of heat. Remember, ice melts at any temperature above 32 degrees F, so the window doesn't have to get very hot.

TOM: If you don't believe us, unplug your freezer for a couple of hours, until everything's melting, then grab a bag of frozen peas and see how hot they are to the touch.

RAY: Second, the glass doesn't change temperature immediately. It's pretty thick. The heat has to work its way through. So it's not like taking a steaming-hot glass and thrusting it into ice water. The change in glass temperature happens gradually.

TOM: And finally, the tempered glass used in rear windows is designed to be able to expand and contract without cracking. Remember, there are other situations where the temperature of the glass changes rapidly. Like when you're driving on a hot, sunny day, and there's a sudden downpour.

RAY: Right. If the glass cracked every time its temperature changed, we'd get a lot of letters about wet interiors in the summer.

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By John Andrews
jandrews@hippopress.com

What you got there, huh? New computer? New, but not particularly expensive, barebones computer? Gonna write some stuff, maybe make a spreadsheet?

Not so fast. In what comes as a shock to many, Windows doesn't come with Microsoft Office all the time. That costs extra. But there are always possibilities.

• **OpenOffice.org:** This open-source suite, now on version 3.2.1, is more than 10 years old with roots that go back to the 1980s with a product called StarOffice. It includes word processor, spreadsheet, database, presentation and drawing programs for Windows, Mac OS and Linux. Although by default it saves your work in Open Document Format (ODF), it also supports opening and saving in current and older Microsoft Office formats, as well as PDF, HTML and some other obscure office suite formats.

Since it's the dominant open-source office suite, there are tons of independent "fork" projects that add different functions or repack-age OpenOffice.org. IBM strips the database program for its Lotus Symphony release, while OxygenOffice goes the opposite route and includes extra fonts, templates, photos and clip art. OOo4Kids aims to indoctrinate our youth into cubicle culture with a suite for 7- to 12-year-olds. It has a simplified interface, more colors and different fonts that I guess children will like. There's even a version on PortableApps.com that installs to a USB drive, so you can use OpenOffice.org on any PC you might encounter.

• **SoftMaker Office:** There are a couple catches with this one. First, it's only the 2006 release that's free, because they're counting on your being so impressed that you pay \$80 for the 2010 release. Sure, that's possible, but how impressive is a suite with only two programs? That's right, you get word processing

and spreadsheets and that's it.

In fact, for most alternative office suites, you now have to go online to use them.

• **Google Docs:** You've heard of them, right? Word processing, spreadsheet, drawing and presentations all stored in your Google account. This suite makes it easy to share documents with other people, either by publishing them directly to the web or by allowing other users access to edit them simultaneously with you. Obviously this capability should be used sparingly — like when you and your classmates are putting together a presentation while chatting on your headsets or something. Whatever kids do these days.

• **Zoho Docs:** Zoho has so many features that are similar to Google that it's easy to get confused. There are two main differences: not everything at Zoho is free, and Zoho appears to not be bent on world domination. Their Docs service is free if you're happy with 1GB of storage space, and it includes the standard word processing, spreadsheet and presentation editors. You can also use their mail, conference, calendar and other apps at no cost (with some upgrades at a monthly fee). You can even sign in with your Google account.

• **ThinkFree:** Another browser-based service with the same three office programs that lets you use your Google account to sign in. They're pushing more corporate software, like their Conversion Server and ThinkFree Server Enterprise ("an on-premise web productivity solution"!). They also offer mobile software for Android, Windows Mobile and iPhone.

• **Microsoft Office Web Apps:** A free version of Microsoft Office? Gadzooks! How will they make money? Maybe by crippling the free online version? Yes, but also by only allowing personal use for free — use it for business, no matter how small, and you're supposed to pay. Word, Excel and Powerpoint editing is all there, but some advanced features of the desktop software aren't. There's also a web version of OneNote, Microsoft's freeform note-taking/brainstorming software. Neat.

WIFI HOTSPOTS

NASHUA

• **A & E ROASTERY** 131 Route 101A, Unit 2, Amherst, 578-3338, aeroastery.com. Free.

• **BARNES & NOBLE** 235 DW Highway, 888-0533

• **CARRIAGE HOUSE** 230 Route 13, Brookline, 769-6004, carriage-housecoffee.com, free

• **CASTRO'S BACK ROOM** 182 Main St., 881-7703. Free.

• **COUNTRY TAVERN** 452 Amherst St 889-5871 countrytavern.org FREE at the restaurant, open noon Tues.-Sat. & Sun. 10a.m. - 2p.m.

• **J BEANER'S COFFEE HOUSE AND CAFE** 25 Route 101A, Amherst. Free.

• **MARTHA'S EXCHANGE** 185 Main St., 883-8781. Free.

• **MERRIMACK PUBLIC LIBRARY** 470 DW Highway Merrimack, 424-5021. Free

• **NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY**, 2 Court St., Nashua. nashualibrary.org/WiFi_FAQ.htm. Free.

• **NASHUA WIFI PROJECT** Main Street, Nashua. Free.

• **NATHANIEL'S** 537 Amherst St. Free.

• **PANERA BREAD** 8 Spit Brook Rd., 891-2133 and 590 Amherst St., 821-6021, panerabread.com, free.

• **THE PEDDLER'S DAUGHTER** 48 Main St., Nashua, 603-821-7535

• **SHORTY'S**, 328 Nashua Mall, Nashua, 882-4070, shortysmex.com

• **SKY MARKET** 383 E. Dunstable Rd., 888-7400. Free.

MANCHESTER

• **900 DEGREES** 50 Dow St., 641-0900

• **AIRPORT DINER**, 2280 Brown Ave., 623-5040. Free.

• **BEA'S WASH N DRY** 478 South Main St. 668-7110. Free.

• **BILLY'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL** 34 Tarrytown Road, 622-3644, billyssportsbar.com. Free.

• **CASTRO'S BACK ROOM** 972 Elm St., 606-7854. Free.

• **CLUB 313** 93 South Maple St.,

628-6813. Free.

• **DERRYFIELD COUNTRY CLUB** 625 Mammoth Road, 669-0235. Free.

• **EMBASSY LAUNDROMAT** 217 Union St (corner of Valley & Union)

• **EXTRA TOUCH GOURMET CAFE** 4 Hawthorne Drive, Bedford, 488-6620

• **GOFFSTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY** 2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102. Free.

• **HIGHLANDER INN** Fusion Hotspot, 2 Highlander Way, 625-6426. Free to guests.

• **HOOKSETT PUBLIC LIBRARY**, 1701B Hooksett Road, 485-6092. Free.

• **JEWELL & THE BEANSTALK** 797 Somerville St., 624-3709. Free.

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Winter fresh

Even in the off season, farmers markets abound

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

Local towns have decided to ride on the coattails of their successful summer farmers markets to bring fresh produce and camaraderie to their residents in the winter.

Salem began offering its first winter market on Nov. 20. The city also held its first summer farmers market this year. Jane Lang, volunteer manager of the Salem winter farmers market, hopes both markets become annual community events.

“The summer market was so successful, we had so many people say, ‘Oh, I wish this could continue on,’” Lang said.

The Salem market, Lang said, was created for the southern tier of the state — Salem, Windham and Pelham — an area where she there is not anyplace like a farmers market for community members to buy fresh, local produce in the winter. Each market date features between eight and 15 vendors, a decrease from the summer market, Lang said.

“We’re not getting crowds of people, but the people we’re getting are spending, which I think is the important thing ... for these [farmers] this is their business — they’re not a Walmart or Market Basket — it’s their livelihood and it’s nice that we can support them,” Lang said.

The Salem Farmers Market is held the first and third Saturday of every month through March 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m..

Local winter farmers markets

• **Uniquely NH Farmers’ Winter Market at Bedford Fields**, Route 101 in Bedford, bedfordfields.com. The market will run Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Jan. 8, Jan. 22, Feb. 5 and Feb. 19. See the website for a list of vendors, which will offer jams and jellies, bath and body products, maple products, jewelry, baked goods and dairy.

• **Concord Winter Farmers Market** will run the second and fourth Saturdays of each month, January through March, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Cole Gardens greenhouse at 430 Loudon Road in Concord, 229-0655, www.colegardens.com, Jan. 8, Jan. 22, Feb. 12, Feb. 26, March 12 and March 26. The market is scheduled to feature dairy, seafood, meats, eggs, garlic, jams and jellies, granola, maple syrup, honey, greens, breads, pastries, cider, apples, dog treats and more as well as live music and events for kids. See www.concordwinterfarmersmarket.com or e-mail joconnornh@yahoo.com.

• **Derry Winter Farmers Market** will be held at Veterans Hall Gymnasium, 31 West Broadway, Derry, from noon to 4 p.m. on the first and third Sunday of every month through March 20. Visit www.derry-nh.org or e-mail bev.ferrante@msn.com.

• **Salem Winter Farmers Market** will be held at United Methodist Church, 8 Pleasant St., Salem, runs the first and third Saturday of each month from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. through March: Jan. 15, Jan. 29, Feb. 5, Feb. 19, March 5 and March 19. See www.salemnhfarmersmarket.com.



Last year’s winter market in Concord. Courtesy photo.

Because of the holidays, the January markets have been moved to Jan. 15 and 29.

Whether it be homemade jams and relishes or goat cheese and raised beef, Lang said people attend the winter markets because they know they are getting the freshest products possible.

“And the people that provide these products take a lot of pride in what they’re doing,” she added. “I think people really appreciate that.”

Lang said she plans on bringing in performers throughout the market season, including an Irish singer she is “very excited about.”

“I’m trying to reach out to the community to try farmers markets because I bet they would never go back into a grocery store again,” Lang said, with a laugh. “The prices may be a little higher but the quality is so much more superior.”

Lang noted the storage life of farm-fresh products as another reason to shop at farmers markets.

“You are getting such a fresh product that it will have a longer life,” she said.

Farmers markets, Lang added, have proven to be a great way to bring communities together, despite poor economic conditions.

In Derry, farmers market director Beverly Ferrante shared that sentiment.

“It’s about the camaraderie ... when you come in, whether it be summer or winter, groups come in talking politics, there are people that graduated together from Pinkerton Academy in the ’50s and ’60s that hadn’t seen each other for years,” Ferrante said. “It is almost like old home day.”

The first Derry winter farmers market began Sunday, Nov. 7, and will be held at 31 West Broadway in Derry on the first and third Sunday of every month through March 20, from noon to 4 p.m.

“We chose Sundays because there are enough Saturday markets out there and we were able to pick up extra vendors from those markets,” Ferrante said. The market, she said, draws an average of 23 vendors. Ferrante added that she has already gotten calls for summer market registration. Filling the basketball court of the Derry Recreation Department are sellers of

root vegetables, meats, dairy products, fruit, organic eggs, pickles, jams, fudge, ice cream and gluten-free snacks. Artisans, local wineries and coffee makers also participate in the market.

The students from the agricultural division at Pinkerton are able to learn the farming business by participating at the markets. They also sell homemade doggie treats and collars at the venue.

“They are preparing themselves for their future. ... It’s a great tie-in, it really is, because again, it’s working for the community,” Ferrante said.

The local 4-H club has also been invited to show their workmanship and animals at the market in February and March.

“It is just another piece to educate the public,” Ferrante said.

At the end of each Derry farmers market, unsold food donated by farmers is brought to local soup kitchens by members of the Rotary Club, Ferrante said. Community members are also welcome to bring non-perishable items to market to be donated, she added.

Concord will kick off its second winter farmers market at Cole Gardens, 430 Loudon Road, Concord, on Saturday, Jan. 8. The market will be held on the second and fourth Saturday of every month through March 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Concord market has grown from 20 to 32 vendors this year.

Concord Farmers Market director Joan O’Connor visited her first winter market, held at a greenhouse in Rollinsford, in 2009. At the market, she said, she found herself “floating” at the thought of being able to buy shrimp directly from a boat captain and fresh garlic. While doing Christmas shopping at Cole Farm that year, she told farm owner Charlie Cole about her experience. When Cole told her he would be closing off half his greenhouse come winter, she asked if he would be willing to host a farmers market in the unused space.

“He said, ‘Sure, if you can get 50 people coming through my door in the dead of the winter on a Saturday I would be happy,’” O’Connor said.

The first winter market drew 1,000 people

Weekly Dish

Notes from the local food scene

By Angel Roy
food@hippopress.com

• **Fire damage:** Theo’s Pizza & Restaurant, 102 Elm St. in Manchester, remains closed after a fire damaged the eatery on Wednesday, Dec. 29. The Clam King, 791 Second St., Manchester, has reopened after a fire on Saturday, Jan. 1, at 7 p.m. WMUR reported that Que Pasa Cantina & Smokehouse, 25 Maple St. in Henniker, caught fire around midnight on Monday, Jan. 3. The fire, Henniker Fire Chief Keith Gilbert told WMUR, caused significant damage to the building. No injuries were reported in any of the three incidents.

• **New eats alert, part I:** The much-anticipated O Steaks and Seafood, 856-7925, opened on Dec. 27 at the Capital Commons on South Main Street in Concord. The restaurant serves lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and dinner from 5 p.m. to close. O’s lounge is open from 11:30 a.m. to close (but serves only appetizers from 3 to 5 p.m.).

• **New eats alert, part II:** Dels Caribbean, 513 Lincoln St. in Manchester, 792-7915, serves authentic Jamaican cuisine and opened during the last week of December.

• **Sweet new eats alert:** Sweet Retreat, 90 Dow St. in Manchester 641-2251, www.sweetretreatmanchester.com, a new bakery, is slated to open in the upcoming weeks in the former home of the Cozy Culinary Café.

• **Meals for the cost of the year:** Saffron Bistro, 80 Main St., Nashua, 883-2100, www.thesaffronbistro.com, will offer entree specials from Thursday, Jan. 6, through Saturday, Jan. 8, for \$20.11.

• **Real food, real life:** The Concord Cooperative Market, 24 S. Main St., Concord, 225-6840, www.concordfoodcoop.com, has partnered with the Capital Area Wellness Coalition to hold a “Real Food, Real Life: Healthy Cooking Series” on Mondays, Jan. 10 to March 14, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The series will feature licensed/registered dietician Hilary Warner and Mike Cook, head chef of the Coop’s Celery Stick Café. Topics will include “The Mindful Meal,” “Protein 101,” “Dining Defensively” and “High Flavor, Low Labor” with Associated Press Food Editor J.M. Hirsch. Classes will be held at the Concord Hospital Conference Room. The cost of the series is \$35. Reservations are required.

• **A tasting and tea education:** The Concord Cooperative Market, 24 S. Main St., Concord, 225-6840, www.concordfoodcoop.com, will host clinical herbalist Maria Noël Groves, on Thursday, Jan. 13, from 6 to 7 p.m. Noël will conduct a free class focusing on “The Art of Tea.” Six teas will be sampled and their flavors and medicinal characteristics discussed during the class. To register, call the Coop, sign up at the store or e-mail classes@concordfoodcoop.coop. The Coop will also hold a “Fire & Ice” tasting on Thursday, Jan. 20, from 6 to 8 p.m., which will feature seafood with a kick from its new Fisherman’s Finest department. The tasting costs \$15. Tickets can be purchased at the store.

• **Wine and cheese:** Jewell Towne Vineyards, 183 Whitehall Road in South Hampton, 394-0600, www.jewelltownevineyards.com, will hold a wine and cheese pairing with Cabot Cheese on Saturday, Jan. 15, and Sunday, Jan. 16, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Try four Jewell Towne wines

Continued on page 40

FOOD

A cheese for everything

Restaurants offer a variety of selections



The cheese plate at Saffron Bistro in Nashua. Angel Roy photo.

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

Local chefs are taking pride in their cheese plate presentations, for appetizers and desserts.

On a given day the cheese plate at Saffron Bistro in Nashua can boast a spread of cranberry cheese (soft, creamy and made with fresh cranberries), aged cheddar, thousand-day-old gouda (that almost has the consistency of Parmesan) and brie. As Saffron Bistro chef and owner Joe Drift likes to change the plate often, sometimes a chocolate goat cheese also makes its way into the rotation.

"I always try to put something in there that you don't see very often, like the cranberry cheese," Drift said.

Drift regularly adorns his cheese plates with grapes, strawberries, apples, honey-roasted cashews and gourmet crackers.

"The combination of cheese with the grapes, fruit and toasted nuts is perfect for almost all wines," Drift said.

Stuart Cameron, executive chef of Hanover Street Chophouse in Manchester, and Damian Martineau, chef and owner of Damian's on the River in New Boston, also could not speak of their cheese plate presentations without mentioning the natural pairing of cheese and vino.

"Cheese makes red wines better — the fat component smoothes them out," Cameron said. Cameron also pointed out two unlikely cheese-and-wine combinations: cheddar with red, and Parmesan with champagne.

"The Parmesan-and-champagne combo has to be tried to be believed," he said. "The creamy bubbiness with the sharp salt cheese is just a match made in heaven."

While nibbling on cheese at the end of the meal, Martineau said, a port wine would pair nicely with the plate.

Brie and mozzarella serve as Martineau's usual soft cheese selections. He also frequently uses an Irish cheddar, manchego (a fairly mild sheep's milk cheese with lots of flavor that Martineau said would be "readily accept-

ed by people who aren't even big cheese fans"), blue or Roquefort cheese. While similar to blue cheese, Roquefort boasts a stronger, slightly more pungent flavor, Martineau said.

To complement his four cheese selections, Martineau adds a cluster of grapes, dried fruits, such as prunes, apricots or cranberries, and walnut halves. The plate is finished with a handful of "simple white crackers" or toasted French bread. Almost all varieties of olives and nuts also serve as a great complement to any cheese plate, Martineau added.

Soft cheeses such as brie, Camembert or Boursin are also great for spreading on vegetables, Martineau said.

"It's almost like combining a crudité and a cheese plate," he said.

Martineau and Cameron both noted they prefer to feature a variety of taste and texture on their cheese plates. In addition to ensuring there is a mix of soft, semi-soft, firm and hard cheeses, Cameron likes to include cow, goat and sheep cheese, when available.

Customers at Hanover Street Chophouse may choose from cheeses such as a Point Reyes blue from California, Vermont goat cheese, baby Swiss from Walpole, two-year cheddar from Grafton, Vt., Ricotta Salata from Gilmanton Iron Works, cheddar from Pineland Farms in Maine and Piermont (a semi-soft, nutty full flavored cheese) from Piermont.

"Cheeses at a restaurant should be like this.... You should not see things you can get at the store — that is not why you are coming here," Cameron said.

Cheeses at Hanover Street Chophouse are often matched with a tomato, garlic and raisin chutney or, for the goats and blues, honey from a local farmers market. For texture, Cameron also adds apples, grapes and nuts and serves a crunchy crostini baguette as an accompaniment.

"I can't think of any nut that wouldn't be great with cheese," Cameron said. "Even macadamia nuts, they are a little rich but they would be great with most cheeses."

Cameron tries to offer as many local cheeses as possible.

"Personally, I think New England has become the premiere cheese area of the country.... From the Hudson Valley through the top of Vermont there are an unbelievable variety of cheeses," Cameron said.

Ordering a cheese plate at the end of the meal is "classically European," Cameron said.

"It would be ordered at the end of the meal to sop up leftover wines and maybe replace a dessert," he said. "Most Americans eat the cheese as an appetizer.... We just want our cheese."

ture, taste and overall cheesiness and a first, second and third place will be awarded in each category. Cabot will offer free cheese to any contestant (though use of Cabot cheese is not required), according to a press release. Additionally, the public will be able to attend (tickets cost \$12 at the door) and cast a vote for the People's Choice Awards. The winning NH Made Mac & Cheese recipe will be featured on Cotton's

menu. Go to www.nhdairypromo.org or call 271-3696.

Chef events/special meals

• **BENEFIT DINNER** Saffron Bistro, 80 Main St. in Nashua, 883-2100, www.thesaffronbistro.com, will host a dinner to benefit the Humane Society of Greater Nashua on Thurs., Jan. 20, at 6 p.m. The three-course meal costs \$50 per person, half of which will

go to the Humane Society. Purchase tickets by calling the shelter at 889-2275 ext. 27 or e-mailing laurie@hsfn.org. The menu for the meal includes the choice of a mixed organic greens salad with a strawberry champagne vinaigrette or Boston clam chowder; entrée choices of pan roasted chicken with winter vegetables and thyme jus, Atlantic salmon with winter vegetables and lemon butter sauce, or

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Weekly Dish

Continued from page 37

paired with cheeses — such as the Marechal Foch with the Horseradish Cheddar.

• **Drinks with the girls:** T-Bones and Cactus Jack's monthly Women After Work series takes place Monday, Jan. 17, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Cactus Jack's, 782 S. Willow St. in Manchester. The restaurant group's Chef Nicole and WZID's Tracy Caruso host the event, which features culinary tips, samples of dishes such as Chipotle Turkey Meatballs with Black Beans and Cilantro, cocktail demonstrations and wine sampling. See go2CJs.com.

• **Meet the vintner:** WineNot Boutique, 170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, www.winenotboutique.com, will host a lecture, bottle signing and food and wine pairing featuring winemaker Patricio Julian Santos, of Ricardo Santos Winery in Argentina, on Wednesday, Jan. 26, from 6 to 8 p.m. Food for the event will be provided by Stella Blu and Saffron Bistro. The cost is \$30 per person.

• **Wine tasting:** Concord Hospital, 250 Pleasant St. in Concord, 225-2712, will hold its annual Heart of the Grape wine tasting benefit on Thursday, Feb. 10, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord. The tasting raises money for the Genetic Counseling Program at Concord Hospital Breast Care Center, according to a press release. The event will feature more than 100 wines; tickets cost \$30 per person. For \$75, attend a VIP reception from 5 to 6 p.m., which also includes a Riedel wine glass and samples of the Vineyard Series from J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines. To buy tickets go to www.concordhospital.org.

• **Swapping stories:** Chadbourne's Restaurant, Route 4 in Northwood, will hold its third annual Dead of Winter Story Swap on Saturday, Jan. 15, at 6 p.m. Call 942-5992 to reserve a table.

• **Russian tea:** Marina Forbes will host a traditional Russian Tea Party on Saturday, Jan. 15, at 10 a.m. at the New England Language Center in Rochester. The event is free and open to the public. She will discuss her Spring 2011 cultural tour to Russia. To attend call 332-2255 or e-mail marina@nylanguage.org.

• **Sustainable discussions:** Dr. John E Carroll, a professor of environmental conservation at UNH, will discuss "Pastures of Plenty: The Future of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Conservation in New England" on Saturday, Feb. 19, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Little Nature Museum in Contoocook. The event is free. See www.littlenaturemuseum.org for more on the event.

• **Winter eats and beer:** Smuttynose Brewery, 225 Heritage Ave., Portsmouth, 436-4026, www.smuttynose.com, has begun offering a seasonal winter menu including a temppeh wrap and chicken wrap. The brewery has also created a new bar and snack menu, served daily until 11 p.m. and on Fridays and Saturdays until midnight, which includes deviled eggs called the "daily devil," a "meatball martini" and spicy nut brittle — chili-toasted nuts in a crunch sweet toffee brittle. Meal specials are listed daily on the Smuttynose Facebook page. Smuttynose is also pulling together a winter beer social to be held at the brewery on Monday, Jan. 24, from 7 to 9 p.m.

butternut squash ravioli with a sage cream sauce; and a dessert of toffee cheesecake squares.

In the spotlight



Alice's Tea Cup: Delectable Recipes for Scones, Cakes, Sandwiches and more from New York's Most Whimsical Tea Spot, by Haley Fox & Lauren Fox (2010, William Morrow, 229 pages)

Imagine the most delightful lunch and you'll have a sense of the recipes in *Alice's Tea Cup*. This book contains the foods found in Alice's Tea Cup, an eatery in New York City. Scones, cupcakes, sandwiches, soups, cakes, salads, cookies and cocktails, some with tea and some not — this is the kind of lunch you luxuriate in, perhaps on your day off.

Since you probably don't often get that lunch, the recipes here would make for a great brunch setup. The scone recipes come in sweet and savory and seem remarkably unintimidating — instructions and tips seem to be able to guide you to light and fluffy treats, not icing-covered bricks (which was the result the one and only time I've made scones).

The soup and salad section seems particularly useful in the current season — many of the salads have a warm component to keep you from shivering while eating and the soups seem hearty and could easily serve as meals (see Warm Lentil Salad and Green Goddess Soup).

The cookbook also shines when it comes to desserts. From the Oreo Cupcakes to the Vegan Orange cake, these desserts seem meant to be crowd-pleasers.

Even if you don't do tea, *Alice's Tea Cup* is an excellent guide to casual, comfy eats. — Amy Diaz

Cooking classes/workshops

• **EVENING WITH THE CHEF** Colby Hill Inn, 33 The Oaks St. in Henniker, 428-3281, www.colbyhillinn.com, will offer its Evening with the Chef events on Sunday nights at 5:30 p.m., Jan. 23, March 7 and March 28. For \$125 per person, get a hands-on cooking class, take-home recipes, a professional chef jacket and dinner with wine. Additional deals are available for participants who wish to stay the night.

• **FREDERICK'S PASTRIES** at 109 Route 101A in Amherst offers one-time classes for kids and adults in cake decoration and design. Check www.pastry.net or call 882-7725 for schedule.

• **JEWETT FARMS STUDIO** 58 Merrimac St., Newburyport, Mass., 978-961-1538, jewettfarms.com,

offers cooking classes from Chef Mary Reilly (thesavorykitchen.net). Classes cost \$90 per person.

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DRINK

Winter wine tastings

Learning about wine with friends

By Paulette Eschrich
food@hippopress.com

The hustle and bustle of the holiday season has abated. It's time to take stock and make plans for the new year. January brings two major wine festivals: the Boston Wine Expo (Jan. 22-23) at the Seaport World Trade Center and New Hampshire's Easter Seals Winter Wine Spectacular (Thursday, Jan. 27.) Both events spawn a plethora of ancillary events like wine dinners, "Meet the Winemaker" tastings and book signings. Check out the "Weekly Dish" and "Food Listing" sections of the Hippo for details and pricing of upcoming events.

As much as I enjoy the variety at large wine events, I prefer my wine tasting on a more intimate and personal scale. A cold winter's eve is the perfect time to invite a group of friends to a wine tasting in your home. Tastings can range from very informal and highly participatory to more structured and formal. They can be accomplished on a tight budget or be more extravagant depending on the wines and the food you serve.

At the structured end of the spectrum, I belong to a group that meets once a month for a formal wine tasting. We use Yahoo Groups to communicate the event details and for registration. Members of the group sign up in advance to lead a tasting and they pick a topic that interests them. Over the years we have done tastings about wine characteristics — Does temperature matter, Wine Aromas, Does the glass shape matter? We've done specific grapes — Pinot Noir, Malbec, and Nebbiolo (Barolo). Members have explored a region — the Loire, Burgundy, and whites from Italy. The person who leads may or may not be the host.

The leader determines the date (usually a Monday) and budget (minimum of \$25 per person and we have capped tastings at \$60), selects and sources the wines, and prepares handouts for the tasting. Food, meant to complement the wines but not to be a full meal, is also planned by the leader. The leader determines the order of the wines and number of wines per flight. The purpose is to be educational, not necessarily to taste the most famous or most expensive wines.

Attendees reserve a space through Yahoo Groups, and that commits them to the fee whether they attend or not. Based on the size of the flights (never more than six wines), each attendee brings his own glasses (the cloth wine bottle bags work well for transporting stemware!). Picture a table with a dozen tasters with five or six glasses each.

Some of the things that make this group work so well are that we have a similar knowledge level and a passion for learning more about wine, we all volunteer as leaders, and

the leaders accept responsibility for researching and preparing their topic. As attendees we join in the discussion about the wines. Pour buckets, lots of water and the fact that we have to go to work the next day keep us from imbibing too much.

There are lots of other ways to arrange and host a wine tasting. Herewith some of my suggestions:

At the informal end of the spectrum, pick a theme (like Cabernet Sauvignon or German whites) and a price range (\$10 to \$20 per bottle.) Each person or couple brings a bottle and does some research about the winery, the wine, or the region. The wines are assembled, opened one at a time, and everyone tries each wine together. The person who brought the wine "introduces" his bottle, perhaps including why or how he made his selection. You can even ask each person to bring a dish or cheese to pair with the wine.

Perhaps not all of your friends are wine-drinkers. Why not host a beer-versus-wine tasting? Create a menu of three or four courses, either as a sit-down meal or of appetizer portions. With each course, select one wine and one beer that you think will pair best with the food. Books like *He Said Beer, She Said Wine* by Marnie Old and Sam Calagione and *What to Drink with What You Eat* by Andrew Dornenburg and Karen Page are great resources. After each course and pairing, have your guests vote on which beverage was the best match with that course. At most tastings beer-drinkers find they like the wine pairing best, and vice versa!

Another one of my favorite reference books, *Great Wine Made Simple* by Andrea Immer Robinson, is arranged with educational tastings as part of each chapter. The author goes a step further by recommending specific wineries to illustrate differences in style or varietal for each tasting. Any chapter could easily provide the framework for a wine party.

In a previous column, I wrote about vertical (different vintages of the same wine) and horizontal (same vintage and/or region of wines from different wineries) tastings. It takes some time and effort to set up this type of wine event, but it can be very rewarding and educational. I discovered a well-designed website, www.wine-tastings-guide.com, which contains lots of hints, sample tasting sheets, and step-by-step instructions on how to prepare for a wide range of wine-tasting parties.

Whether formal or informal, a wine tasting with friends can warm up a frosty winter night.

Paulette Eschrich is a dedicated oenophile and former wine retailer who runs a wine book club and conducts custom in-home wine tastings.

Drink Listings

Breweries/Distilleries/Cider

• **ANHEUSER-BUSCH** 221 DW Hwy, Merrimack. Complimentary tours include a visit to the Clydesdale Hamlet, home of the world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 595-1202.
• **FARNUM HILL CIDERS** 98

Poverty Lane, Lebanon, 448-1511, www.farnumhillciders.com

• **ELM CITY BREWING COMPANY** Colony Mill Marketplace, 222 West St., Keene, 355-3335, www.elmcitybrewing.com. Restaurant, brewery and pub, open Mon.-Thurs., 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to midnight; Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

• **REDHOOK BREWERY** 35 Corporate Drive, Pease Tradeport, Portsmouth, www.redhook.com, produces Redhook ales and features the Cataqua Public House offering brews and a pub menu. Tours offered Monday and Tuesday at 2 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday at noon, 1, 3 and 4 p.m.; Friday and Saturday every hour on the hour from noon to 4 p.m.; Sun-

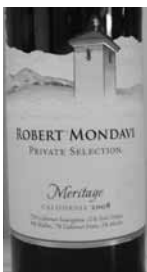
DRINK

Red, white and green A lot of wine, a little cash

In this occasional series, we'll look at red and white wines, none over \$20 (and most under \$15). As the weather gets colder, we're throwing in a few more reds and cutting back on the whites, which are often served chilled and therefore a little less inviting when you're bundling up against the lower temperatures.

This week we did another head-to-head comparison — this one is of Meritages from California. Meritages are Bordeaux-style blends. The Meritage Alliance, which licenses the use of the word "Meritage," says on its website (www.meritagealliance.com) that the "Meritage" label was created to describe Bordeaux-style wines made in the new world. The Alliance defines a red Meritage as some blend of cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc, merlot, malbec, petit verdot and carmenere. A white Meritage has some blend of sauvignon blanc, Semillon and muscadelle du Bordolais. They also explain that you should pronounce "Meritage" to rhyme with "heritage," not with "garage." (The word is a blend of "merit" and "heritage," according to the website.)

We started with the **2008 Robert Mondavi Private Selection Meritage** (\$8.99). This wine is 72 percent cabernet sauvignon, 11 percent petite verdot, 8 percent malbec, 7 percent cab franc and 2 percent merlot. Fruit on the nose, the serious wine-lover proclaimed. This is a wine you definitely want to take a moment to sniff — you get lovely jammy fruitiness and a bit of that fresh honey-wheat bread smell. Take a sip and you get a wine that is round and complex — surprisingly so for only \$9 per



bottle. The blend creates layers of flavor so it isn't just one jammy punch in the mouth but a balanced wine, good with food and a delight to sip on its own.

The **2007 Kendall-Jackson Vintner's Reserve Meritage** (\$12.99) is a bit more in

the French style. This wine is 61 percent cabernet sauvignon, 31 percent merlot, 5.5 percent cab franc, 2 percent malbec and 0.5 percent petit verdot. We got a slight smell of fruit on the nose and, as we started to sip, more tannins than the Mondavi wine. The wine has some of the same fruity flavors of the Mondavi but, by itself, this was a harsher glass of wine. Where the Kendall-Jackson really came alive was with food. As you'd expect from this blend and its more assertive French flavors, the Kendall-Jackson works with the food but isn't at all overwhelmed by it. We tasted more of the depth of the flavors — dark berry and hints of smokiness.

Blends can be particularly fun to try, with marginally different percentages of different grape varieties creating dramatically different flavors in the wines. The Meritage Alliance website lists all of the wineries using the Meritage label, and a search of "Meritage" at the state liquor commission website found about three dozen different bottles.

"Red, White & Green" is by two wine-lovers, one serious and one casual, who are always on the lookout for a great bottle at a good price. All prices according to the state liquor store (nh.liquor.state.nh.us) unless otherwise stated.

day every hour on the hour from 1 to 4 p.m.

• **SMUTTYNOSE** 225 Heritage Ave., Portsmouth, smuttynose.com, 436-4026. Free tours to the public Friday at 3 p.m. & Saturday at 11 a.m.

• **TUCKERMAN BREWING COMPANY** 64 Hobbs St., Conway, 447-5400, www.tuckermanbrewing.com, offers tours every Saturday at 3 p.m.

Classes/workshops on wine/beer making

• **HAPPY NEW BEERS** IncredibREW, 112 DW Highway in Nashua, 891-2477, www.incredibrew.com. On Thurs., Jan. 6, at 6 p.m. it's "Happy New Beers 2011." For \$35 per variety case (bottles included) make six new recipes and return in two weeks for bottling.

• **DARK & STORMY BREWFEST** IncredibREW, 112 DW Highway in Nashua, 891-2477, www.incredibrew.com. On Tues., Jan. 19, and Wed., Jan. 20, at 6 p.m., it's "Dark and Stormy Night Brewfest." For \$55 for two cases of beer (bottles not included), make thick, dark, heavy brews — Big Boy Stout, Robust Porter, Russian Imperial Stout, Irish Dry Stout, Whiskey Barrel Porter and Humm-bug Dark Ale — and return in two weeks for bottling.

• **WINTER WARMER WINE-FEST** IncredibREW, 112 DW Highway in Nashua, 891-2477, www.incredibrew.com. On Fri., Jan. 21, at 7 p.m. it's all about wines at the Winter Warmer Winefest. Get six different bottles of wine from south of the equator (where it's summer) for \$55.

Classes/workshops on beer/wine tasting

• **BE YOUR OWN SOMMELIER** WineNot Boutique, 170 Main St. in Nashua, 204-5569, www.winenotboutique.com, will hold its "Be Your Own Sommelier" again on Fridays, 6:30 to 8 p.m., starting in January. Sign up for the six-week course (for \$210) or for the individual classes: "Tasting like a Pro" (\$30) on Jan. 21; "Wine Language & Sommelier Secrets" (\$30) on Jan. 28; "Big 6 Wine Grapes" (\$30) on Feb. 4; "Old World & New World" (\$30) on Feb. 11; "Pairing Wine with Food" (\$50) on Feb. 18, or "Wine Complexity" (\$50) on Feb. 25. Call to reserve a seat.

• **WINE CLASSES** The Wine Society (650 Amherst St. #9 in Nashua, 883-4114; www.winesociety.us) is now accepting registrations for the first in the following series of upcoming six-week workshops taught by Charlie Saunders. The Connoisseur

Workshop is an introductory series on topics such as the history of wine, varieties, regions, food pairing, and tasting, Wednesdays, Jan. 19 through Feb. 23, from 7 to 9:30 p.m., \$225. The Oenophile Workshop is the second installment, offering advanced discussions that look in depth at wine regions and comparative tastings, dates to be determined, \$275. The Cellar Master Workshop is the third installment, offering in-depth lessons on creating and maintaining your own wine cellar, dates to be determined, \$325. And for the real wine geek the Wine Master workshop offers detailed instruction on soil types, grape varieties, regions and tasting of some "truly amazing" wines, dates to be determined, \$425. RSVP to 978-649-8993.

Special dinners

• **LOUIS JADOT WINE DINNER** Marc Dupin of Louis Jadot Wines from France will attend a dinner at Colby Hill Inn, 33 The Oaks in Henniker, www.colbyhillinn.com, 428-3281, on Wed., Jan. 26, at 6 p.m. The "Winter Wine Dinner" will feature Louis Jadot Wines paired with four courses. The dinner (five courses in all) costs \$80 per person. Call 800-531-0330 for reservations.

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Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events. To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Lisa Parsons at lparsons@hippopress.com. To get your author events, library events and more listed, send information to listings@hippopress.com.

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POP CULTURE:

CDS

Loreena McKennitt, *The Wind that Shakes the Barley*
Verve Records, Nov. 16



McKennitt can't completely escape the weird form of rock-stardom she's achieved, in which she's bigger than your average corseted busker but nothing that could ever knock Enya out of orbit. She's back into roots stuff here, Celtic mope-folk whose bummeur vibe makes Yiddish wail-a-thons sound like Disney soundtracking, and what do the Irish have to be so bummed about nowadays, unless we're talking about their crashed economy? But never mind that; it's Frodo wannabes she's chasing here, after all, with slow instrumental traditionals like "Brian Boru's March" and the half-whispered falsetto of "Down By the Sally Gardens."

"The Star of the County Down" is possessed of a comparative pulse, the stompy breed of stern-and-stubborn sing-along that brings out those knowing smiles on Guinness-gulpers, but then comes the title track in funereal half-there downbeat. "Look, Braveheart's head on a pike, just think!" this stuff seems to want to say, as I cover my ears, righteously unmoved. **B**—Eric W. Saeger

Pendulum, *Immersion*
Atlantic Records, Jan. 25



This was a not-unhappy eventuality, drum-n-bass spreading so widely that even the real-life Napoleon Dynamite zoids of this planet will soon be using it as background noise while they prank-call sub shops. Ground Zero for this sort-of-sea-change is the Linkin Park tour for which this band opens, brandishing perfectly calculated spazz linked arm-in-arm with arena grandeur. They're true fans of DnB, obviously listening to Ed Rush and guys like that; I won't try to categorize their finest moments (most of which involve much buzz-beat twisting of knobs) as "such-and-so-step,"

first of all because one or more people would say I'm wrong, and secondly because it's a stupid academic argument that'll go by the boards in the end anyway when, as already pointed out, the biggest square in your local high school is wearing the T-shirt and it's just another big cog in the Matrix. This album is enormously clever, starting out with a long, drawn-out electro-step freakout before getting into the guts of its intention, a wildly cool rockout that's more along the lines of what they've done previously. Whatever-whatever, all this boils down to is that Pendulum is about to take over the joint in a big way, once all the fearful haters put down their HIM albums for a second and get a grip on the history. **A**—Eric W. Saeger

Playlist

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases



• Drawling Cali-surf-stoners **Cake** have been so busy surfing while stoned that it's been nearly seven years since they've released an album, and so they will release *Showroom of Compassion* this coming Tuesday. You once heard their song "The Distance" and thought it was Beck trying to make a boring song to rope in a few unwary hip-hop-pers, and the only difference nowadays is that they want to rope in a few unwary mollusks who enjoy drone-alt-rock, as featured in their new song "Federal Funding."

• Although they had success with their debut LP in 2009, **Cage the Elephant** have decided that they will not turn around and completely suck on their second LP, *Thank You Happy Birthday*, out next week. OK, fine, the song "Always Something" sounds like something the Strokes would have thrown in the garbage four years ago, and I can't think of any excuse for their dabbling in shoegaze on "Aberdeen," but why do you insist in nitpicking every little thing?

• There are Appalachian banjo-players, people who blindly worship Chinese music, and alt-rock demi-goddess mega-weirdos, but **Abigail Washburn** is all three. Like Tori Amos without all the gross issues and weekend-alcoholism, Washburn's hushed-but-subtly-frantic soprano is perfect for NPR drivetime radio while you try to think of a place to hide the body. Her new LP, *City of Refuge*, will be in the Walmarts and such on Tuesday, at which point you can put the CD in your car radio and drive through small New Hampshire towns like Antrim or Hillsborough, wishing you lived in the hills of Appalachia or someplace similar, where there aren't so darn many people.

• Comedian **Jeff Dunham** is a ventriloquist puppet guy whose jokes are only laughed at by your least-favorite homeboy, who's not really laughing but is instead trying to bum you out over the fact that a few people still actually laugh at puppet shows even here in 2011, more than 2,000 years after the birth of Howdy Doody. Dunham has a new CD coming out, *All By My Selves*, next week. That's right, a sound-only CD of a ventriloquist. Isn't that sort of like having a silent movie of a band, or a Braille version of a coffee table picture book, or am I just being Captain Bringdown?

—Eric W. Saeger

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POP CULTURE:

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'It's Iron Man!'

National truck competition starts here



The Iron Man truck driven by Scott Buetow. Courtesy photo.

By Adam Coughlin
acoughlin@hippopress.com

Fifteen hundred horsepower of raw adrenaline descends upon the Verizon Wireless Arena this weekend, as Monster Jam's Thunder National crashes into town. But as you get caught up in the frenzy of these 66-inch-wheeled monster trucks, don't forget there is a method to the madness.

The stop in Manchester begins the 2011 season, which for the most skilled drivers will culminate in the World Finals in March in Las Vegas. While the audience is treated to an eardrum-shattering good time, the drivers are taking things very seriously, according to Scott Buetow, who will be driving the Iron Man truck for the first time this year.

Buetow said the show opens with a race, which will whittle down the six monster trucks to two and then an eventual winner. For winning the race, the driver gets a certain number of points. Following the race, the drivers will compete in a donut contest, in which they will drive in tight circles. The winner gets additional points. The final event the drivers can earn points in is the individual program. Buetow said drivers typically plan a portion of the individual routine but they must remain flexible. The size and shape of the arena or stadium and the obstacles available change the routine and so Buetow said he always walks the track before the show. But any jump off a car may throw the monster truck in a different direction, so the driver must stay on his toes.

"Basically, whatever is in front of you, hit it," Buetow said. "And keep the crowd involved."

At the end of the season, drivers' points are tallied and those scoring the highest are invited to the nationals.

"This isn't some staged show," Buetow said. "We're out there trying."

Buetow said the feeling of launching a monster truck 20 or 30 feet in the air off a row of cars is indescribable and addictive. In fact, the hardest part of driving a monster truck is not driving a monster truck.

"We get tons of traffic out in Chicago," Buetow said. "I just wish one day a year I was allowed to take the truck out on the highway and go nuts."

Of course, Buetow never will. But he gets to drive them every weekend, which is just about heaven for any gearhead.

Born in the Midwest, near Chicago, Bue-

tow grew up around motor sports. He rode motor-cross, sleds, cars and boats. If it had an engine, he found his way behind the wheel. Having such a knack, he was offered an opportunity in 2008 to test drive a monster truck in Norfolk, Va. Those in the sport wanted to see how he could handle the steel beast.

"It is unlike anything," Buetow said. "It is raw power. You've got to have the competitive edge. You've got to be able to hit it and go."

Buetow passed the tests but the sport was changing. In 2008, the economy dipped and there was a freeze on building monster trucks. Live-Nation, which had previously owned Monster Jam, sold and a new owner, Advance Auto Parts, came in. But last year things rebounded and Buetow finally got the call.

"It was a dream come true," Buetow said.

The dream got even sweeter when Buetow learned he would drive the Iron Man truck. As a lifelong fan of Marvel comic books, Buetow idolized Tony Stark. So even though the engine, wiring and mechanics are the same as any truck, the painting on the side makes all the difference.

"It's Iron Man!" Buetow gawked.

All of these trucks are Iron Man-esque in their durability. Buetow said when a normal car hits a bump it can get damaged, but these monster trucks crush cars on a weekly basis and never call in a sick day.

"We have some of the best mechanics in the world," Buetow said.

He has a new mechanic himself and was looking forward to crisscrossing the country with him. After Manchester, Buetow is off to San Antonio, Toronto, and then Washington, D.C. Two trucks each are put on trailers and carted around the country. Their gigantic wheels are removed, of course, and normal-size tires are put on.

"It looks really funny," Buetow said.

That is Buetow's schedule. There are many other drivers as well. On any Friday night there may be seven states putting on shows. There are in fact seven different Grave Digger trucks —the Babe Ruths of monster trucks. There is also another Iron Man truck besides the one Buetow drives.

But when the engines are roaring and the hoods caving in, for the thousands in attendance there will be only one iron truck — being tamed by one brave man.

Monster Jam's Thunder Nationals

When: Friday, Jan. 7, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 8, at 2 p.m.; and Saturday, Jan. 8, at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Verizon Wireless Arena, 555 Elm St., Manchester, www.verizonwirelessarena.com

Tickets: \$21, \$31 and \$41. Call 800-745-3000 or visit www.ticketmaster.com.

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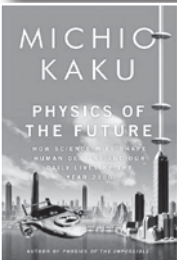
The view from 20 and 40 years out

By Lisa Parsons
lparsons@hippopress.com

While you're making all those resolutions for the future, you're naturally wondering what kind of future it will be. Even if you're all about living in the moment, you know that moment affects the next one. Two recent books dive head-long into looking at the future:

In *2030: Technology that will Change the World*, by Rutger Van Santen, Djan Khoe, and Bram Vermeer, (2010, Oxford University Press, 295 pages), three scientists in the Netherlands look at today's technology and tell us where it's headed in four broad areas: "Earth," "Tools," "Humans" and "Communities." Open the book at random to read about advances in medical imaging, energy production, computer networking, robotics, financial markets.... It gives the reader a nice sense of what the people working in these fields have on their minds. This is a book of big pictures, broad ideas, and lots of analogies — cities are like animals, industry is like an ecosystem. The title's a bit of a misnomer; it's more like "here's what we need to do, if only we could get off our butts and do it" and "here's the direction the solution probably lies in." But though it's vague, it's practical. No flying cars or smell-o-vision; this is about solving problems like hunger and pollution and disease and illiteracy and the effects of climate change.

And climate change is at the center of *The World in 2050: Four Forces Shaping Civilization's Northern Future*, by Laurence C. Smith (2010, Dutton Books, 322 pages). By 2050 we'll all be moving north to live with the pizzly bears. A couple years ago a polar bear mated with a grizzly, for the first time ever as far as we know. And



then the offspring mated. If you doubt climate change, tell it to the pizzly.

Laurence Smith, a UCLA earth scientist, gazes into his crystal ball (and at the pizzly) and sees four forces pushing us northward: demographic trends, natural resource demand, climate change ("we are taking the atmosphere to a place the Earth has not seen for hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of years") and globalization ("We will all be potential rivals, but also all potential friends."). Technological advances are "enablers or brake pads" on these forces. And these forces are pushing us north. If *2030* is a university tech department colloquium attended by a bunch of engineers with their sleeves rolled up, *The World in 2050* is a helicopter ride over Arctic shipping lanes. There's talk of political alliances, business dynamics, oil supplies, international dealings of many kinds, and although the specifics can't be pinned down, of course, the whole "Northward ho!" thing is one Smith is willing to bank on. He ends the book on an optimistic note, saying that we're limited only by our choices rather than our abilities.

Want some more future-thinking? There are two books

scheduled for March 15 release: *Physics of the Future: How Science Will Shape Human Destiny and Our Daily Lives by the Year 2100*, by Michio Kaku (Doubleday) and *Deep Future: The Next 100,000 Years of Life on Earth*, by Curt Stager (Thomas Dunne Books).

Or you can wait two more days, and read *Future Babble: Why Expert Predictions are Next to Worthless, and You Can Do Better*, by Dan Gardner (March 17, Dutton).

BOOK & LECTURE LISTINGS

Libraries

- **Amherst Town Library**
14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, amherst.lib.nh.us
- **Bedford Public Library**
3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford 472-3023, bedford.lib.nh.us
- **Concord Public Library**
45 Green St., 225-8670, www.concordpubliclibrary.net
- **Derry Public Library**
64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, derry.lib.nh.us
- **Goffstown Public Library**
2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102, goffstown.lib.nh.us
- **Hollis Social Library**
2 Monument Sq., Hollis, 465-7721, hollis.lib.nh.us
- **Hooksett Public Library**
1701B Hooksett Rd., Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org
- **Manchester City Library**
405 Pine St. (main branch) and 76 N. Main St. (West branch), 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us

- **Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum**
18 Highlawn Road, Warner, 456-2600, indianmuseum.org
- **Nashua Public Library**
2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, nashualibrary.org
- **Rodgers Memorial Library**
194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rodgerslibrary.org
- **Tucker Free Library**
31 Western Ave., Henniker, 428-3471, tuckerfreelibrary.org
- **Wadleigh Memorial Library**
49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, wadleigh.lib.nh.us
- **Wilton Public Library**
7 Forest Road, Wilton, 654-2581, wiltonlibrarynh.org

Bookstores

- **Barnes & Noble**
1741 South Willow St., Manchester, 668-5557; 235 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-5961; bn.com
- **Borders**
76 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, 224-1255; 281 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-9300; borders.com

- **Double Midnight Comics & Collectibles**
245 Maple St., Manchester, 669-9636, dmcomics.com
- **Gibson's Bookstore**
27 South Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com
- **MainStreet Bookends**
16 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2700, mainstreetbookends.com
- **River Run Books**
20 Congress St., Portsmouth, 431-2100, riverrunbookstore.com
- **Toadstool Bookshop**
586 Nashua St., Milford, 673-1734, toadbooks.com

Other

- **Manchester Historic Association**
200 Bedford St., 622-7531, manchesterhistoric.org
- **New Hampshire Humanities Council**
19 Pillsbury St., Concord, 224-4071, www.nhhc.org
- **New Hampshire State Library**
20 Park St., Concord,

www.nh.gov/nhsl
• New Hampshire Writers' Project SNHU, 2521 N. River Rd., Manchester, 314-7980, nhwritersproject.org
• Rivier College 420 Main St., Nashua, 888-1311, rivier.edu.
• UNH Manchester 400 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-4101, unhm.unh.edu

Author events

• ROBERT HUCKINS Milford resident and social studies teacher talks about his new novel, *American Dreamland*, on Sat., Jan. 8, 2-4 p.m. at Milford Toadstool.
• THOMAS WEISSHAUS local author talks about his new memoir, *Not a Victim! Tales of Survival in Nazi Budapest*, on Tues., Jan. 11, at 7 p.m. at RiverRun Bookstore in Portsmouth.
• ALEX & NICK HUMEZ and ROB FLYNN will talk about their book *Short Cuts: A Guide to Oaths, Ring Tones, Ransom Notes, Famous Last Words, and Other Forms of Minimalist Communication* (Oxford University Press) on Thurs., Jan. 13, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore in Concord.
• ANNE TRUBEK talks about *A Skeptic's Guide to Writers' Houses* on Thurs., Jan. 13, at 7 p.m. at RiverRun Bookstore in Portsmouth.
• LISA GENOVA will talk about her novel *Left Neglected* on Thurs., Jan. 20, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore in Concord.
• MIRA BARTOK talks about her memoir *The Memory Palace* on Thurs., Jan. 20, at 7 p.m. at RiverRun Bookstore in Portsmouth.
• TIM PAWLENTY will discuss his book *Courage to Stand: An American Story* on Mon., Jan. 24, at noon at Manchester B&N.
• JUSTIN KRAMON will talk about his debut novel, *Finny* (Random House), on Mon., Jan. 24, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore in Concord.
• ELIZABETH GILBERT is the guest at Writers on a New England Stage on Thurs., Feb. 3, at The Music Hall in Portsmouth. The series features authors interviewed on stage by a New Hampshire Public Radio host. Tickets cost \$13. Buy in person at 28 Chestnut St., by phone at 433-3100 or at www.themusichall.org. Gilbert (*Eat, Pray, Love*) will present her latest work, *Committed*. Vouchers for books signed by the author will be available for \$14.60 in advance. Signed books can be purchased on the evening of the event for the full retail price of \$16.
• JESSIE CROCKETT local author will read and sign copies of her latest novel, *Live Free or Die—A Granite State Mystery*, on Tues., Feb. 8, 6:30-8 p.m. at Hooksett Public Library.
• 2010-11 UNH WRITERS SERIES hosted by the UNH English Dept. in the Memorial Union Building at UNH Durham continues with Debra Spark reading from her novel *Good for the Jews* on Thurs., Feb. 17, at 5 p.m.; and Darcy Frey reading from *The Last Shot: City Streets, Basketball Dreams* on Thurs., April 7, at 5 p.m. All Writers Series events are free and open to the public. See www.unh.edu/English or call 862-1313.
• GARRISON KEILLOR will be at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium on Sun., March 6, 2011, at 3 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$30.50 to \$56.50; purchase tickets in person at the box office at 50 East Merrimack St.,

Lowell, by phone at 978-454-2299 or online at lowellauditorium.com. Discounts are available for parties of 15 or more; call 978-937-8688 x225.
• JOYCE CAROL OATES is the guest at Writers on a New England Stage on Mon., March 28, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. at The Music Hall in Portsmouth. The series features authors interviewed on stage by a New Hampshire Public Radio host. Tickets cost \$13. Buy in person at 28 Chestnut St., by phone at 603-433-3100 or at www.themusichall.org.
• JODI PICOULT discusses *Sing You Home* on Wed., April 6, 2011, at 7 p.m. in the Spotlight Café in the Capital Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com, as part of the Writers in the Spotlight series hosted by Gibson's Bookstore. General admission; tickets cost \$6; order online, by phone, or in person at the box office or Gibson's.

Lectures and discussions

• WHAT DO YOU STAND FOR? presentation by writer and ethicist Jim Lichtman on Thurs., Jan. 6, 6-7 p.m. in the NHTI Library Living Room in Concord. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. See nhti.edu.
• CIVIL RIGHTS: LOOKING BACK...LOOKING FORWARD presentation on Tues., Jan. 11, 6:30-8 p.m. at Hooksett Public Library. James Kates, a volunteer during Freedom Summer, will speak and moderate a conversation about civil rights then and now. Registration not required.
• NEW HAMPSHIRE ON SKIS presentation by John B. Allen of Plymouth State University, on Wed., Jan. 12, at 6:30 p.m. at Meredith Public Library, courtesy of the NH Humanities Council.
• ON LOCATION IN ITALY is a monthlong series of programs for adults at the Amherst Town Library in January. First is "Travel to the Amalfi Coast and Rome, along with Vienna, Slovenia and Croatia," presented by Nancy and David Dillon, on Tues., Jan. 11, at 7 p.m. Second is "Florence: Lilies, Marble, and All the Vanities, on Wednesdays, Jan. 12 & 19, from 1 to 2:30 p.m.; then "Caesar: the Man from Venus" (a living history presentation supported with a grant from the NH Humanities Council) on Tues., Jan. 18, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.; and finally "Italian Trattoria: Classic Flavors from an Italian Café" on Tues., Jan. 25, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. All events in the series are free and open to the public. Register to save a seat by calling the library or visiting its online calendar.
• INDIAN STREAM REPUBLIC presentation by Jere Daniell of Dartmouth College on Tues., Jan. 18, at 7 p.m. at Merrimack Public Library, courtesy of the NH Humanities Council. Much of what is now Pittsburg, N.H., was once a self-described independent nation that called itself the Indian Stream Republic and lasted nearly a decade.
• UNDERSTANDING THE MOVIES: THE ART OF FILM presentation by Patrick D. Anderson of Colby-Sawyer College on Thurs., Jan. 20, at 7 p.m. at Kelley Library in Salem, courtesy of the NH Humanities Council. Increase your film vocabulary and have fun discussing movies together; gain an understanding of how film creates and delivers ideas and how it shapes and reflects popular attitudes.
• COWS AND COMMUNITIES: HOW THE LOWLY BOVINE

HAS NURTURED NH Friday, Jan. 21, at 7:15 p.m. at New Boston Community Church, 2 Meetinghouse Road, New Boston, presented by Steve Taylor, courtesy of the NH Humanities Council. Find out how cows contributed to NH's life and culture, where they are today and what they are doing for us now.
• LIBERTY IS OUR MOTTO! SONGS AND STORIES OF THE HUTCHINSON FAMILY SINGERS Originally from Milford, N.H., the Hutchinson Family Singers were America's most popular musical entertainers for much of the mid-19th century. They achieved international fame with songs advancing social reform and political causes such as abolition, temperance and women's suffrage. Musician and singer Steve Blunt, in character as John Hutchinson, tells the Hutchinsons' story and shares their music with audiences of all ages. Tues., Feb. 15, at 7 p.m. at Merrimack Public Library; Mon., Feb. 21, at 7 p.m. at Boscawen Municipal Complex, 116 N. Main St., Boscawen.

Poetry

• NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE MFA POETRY READINGS will be held in the NEC Simon Center at 98 Bridge St., Henniker, free and open to the public. All readings are held at 7:30 p.m. Call 219-9172 for information or to confirm. On Wed., Jan. 5, Brian Henry reads from his new book, *Wings Without Birds*. On Thurs., Jan. 6, Carol Frost reads from her new book, *Honeycomb*. On Fri., Jan. 7, poet Anne Waldman and composer Ambrose Bye perform. On Sun., Jan. 9, James Harms and Malena Morling read. On Tues., Jan. 11, students in NEC's MFA program offer readings. See www.nec.edu.
• 2010-11 EAGLE POND AUTHORS' SERIES at Plymouth State University (plymouth.edu) brings poets to the Smith Recital Hall in the Silver Center for the Arts on several Thursdays at 7 p.m. Robert Frost celebration led by Donald Hall on March 31; former U.S. poet laureate Charles Simic on April 14. All readings are free but advance reservations are recommended because readings often fill to capacity. Call 535-2787 or e-mail silver-center@plymouth.edu. All readings are followed by an author's reception and book signing.
• POETRY SOCIETY OF NH meets on the third Wed. of each month at Gibson's Bookstore for a poetry reading followed by an open mike hosted by Don Kimball. All are welcome; come to listen or to read. See poetrysocietyof-newhampshire.org or call 332-0732.
• HYLEA BROOK READING SERIES continues at the BeanTowne Coffee House & Café at 201 Route 111 in Hampstead (beantownecoffee.com). Free and open to the public, the series is affiliated with the Robert Frost Farm. An open mike follows the readings. For info, e-mail Robert Crawford at bobik9@aol.com.
• HYLEA BROOK POETS WORKSHOPS meet on the third Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Coffee Factory in Derry. For info, contact Robert Crawford at bobik9@aol.com.
• POETRY READING open mike, fourth Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. at The Lion Café on Route 107 (North Road) in Deerfield. Info: 463-7226 or lindseycoombs@gmail.com.
• SLAM FREE OR DIE at Bridge Café, 1117 Elm St., Manchester, 647-9991 includes a poetry open-mike

session with 15 spots. Signups start between 6 and 6:30 p.m., open mike begins sometime after 7 p.m., with the slam following after a short break. \$3 cover charge. See facebook.com/slamfreeordie, e-mail bridgepoetry@gmail.com or call 858-3286. Slam Free or Die generally includes slam competitions monthly during slam season (Sept. through April).
• OPEN-MIKE poetry every Friday, 6:30-9 p.m. at Amsterdam Coffee, 515 DW Hwy in Merrimack. For more info call Gary Powers at 424-8844.
• POETS UNBOUND meets for weekly critique sessions in Manchester and in Nashua. Manchester meetings are at 10 a.m. Sundays at Barnes & Noble in Manchester. Nashua meetings are at 7 p.m. at Nashua Public Library. Call Martha Deborah Hall at 672-0106 for details.
• ZION HILL POETRY READINGS at Stone Church in Newmarket (5 Granite St.) features a wide variety of poets, on the second Tuesday of every month. Open mike from 7 to 8 p.m. (arrive early to sign up); featured poet follows. Stone Church has a full bar and menu until 11 p.m.

Writers' groups

• DARE TO WRITE instructor Anne Kelsey (DaretoWrite.com) offers creative writing classes beginning in January. "Dare to Write—No Red Pens Allowed!" is offered at noon on Jan. 7, 14 & 28 and Feb. 4, 11 & 18 at Londonderry Senior Center; no writing experience necessary; register at 432-7509. A memoir-writing class will be held six consecutive Fridays beginning Jan. 7 at 9 a.m. at Windham Town Hall; cost is \$75 per person for the six-week session and registration is required; call 965-1208. A six-week class on writing short stories will be held at 7 p.m. on six consecutive Wed. evenings beginning Jan. 12 at Wind-

In the spotlight



Native American women

Dartmouth College associate professor Melanie Benson (pictured) talks about Native American women writers on Sunday, Jan. 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, 18 Highlawn Road, Warner, 456-2600, indianmuseum.org. The event is part of the Sunday speaker series, which this season is themed "More than Beads & Baskets: The Lives and Works of Native American Women." Admission is free and open to the public thanks to a grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council. The series continues monthly through June. Learn about Benson and her work at www.dartmouth.edu.

ham Town Hall for ages 12 and older, cost is \$75 per person for the six-week session and registration is required; call 965-1208 or e-mail recreation@WindhamNewHampshire.com.
• SHORT-SIGHTED: FICTION IN A FLASH workshop with Jody Hetherington on Mon., Jan. 10, at 7 p.m. at RiverRun Bookstore in Portsmouth, sponsored by RiverRun and Pen Central. Free and open to the public. Bring a journal, a pen and your willingness to experiment. RSVP to pencentral@comcast.net.
• SO YOU WANT TO START WRITING... NH author Joe Smiga (joesmiga.com) presents a one-hour program to help aspiring writers get started and learn about editing and maybe getting published, Tues., Jan. 11, at 7 p.m. at Wadleigh Memorial Library.
• SWA WRITING CONTEST The Seacoast Writers Association is accepting submissions for its 21st annual writing contest. Deadline for receipt of submissions is Feb. 1. Cash prizes of \$100, \$75 and \$50 will be awarded in each of three categories: short story, poetry, and personal essay. Winners

will be announced at the spring conference in May in Dover and winning entries will be published in an anthology in the fall. For an entry form, visit seacoastwritersassociation.org. A completed entry form must accompany all entries. Call 778-1740 or e-mail patparnell@comcast.net with questions.
• NEW HAMPSHIRE WRITERS' PROJECT has announced its schedule of workshops at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester. See schedule online.

Other

• BOOK SALE at Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum of gently used books Fri., Jan. 7, 6-9 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 8, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; & Sun., Jan. 9, noon-3 p.m.
• A WINTER'S TALE is a 21st-century campfire of true stories told live, no notes, no net, for one Sunday each in January, February and March, at The Red Door, 107 State St., Portsmouth, reddoorportsmouth.com. This series is co-sponsored by The Red Door and RiverRun Bookstore. Dates are Jan. 23, Feb. 20 & March 20 at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Ticket price TBA. See www.riverrunbookstore.com.

The Book Report

• Currier Museum likes books: The Currier Museum of Art in Manchester is offering a new online book club that links artworks on exhibit at the museum to books that clubs might want to read. Go to currier.org, click Education & Programs, then Adult Programs to check out the pairing of Ralph Ellison's novel *Invisible Man* with Glenn Ligon's paintings "Invisible Man (Two Views)." If your book club is interested, you can download the information and discussion questions, use them within your group, then call 669-6144 ext. 113 to request a special book club tour featuring the Ligon work and other works in the collection that connect with themes relevant to the painting and novel.
• Currier likes poetry: The Currier also wants "Invisible Man (Two Views)" by Glenn Ligon to inspire poets. Check it out, then submit your poetry by Wednesday, March 9, to inspiredwords@currier.org and sign up to read it Sunday, March 13, at 2 p.m. — or just come to listen. The Currier will offer writing workshops Sunday, Feb. 27, at 2:30 p.m. and Thursday, March 3, at 6:30 p.m.
• Babies also like books: Parents of babies and toddlers are invited to a workshop at Concord Public Library exploring how children bond with books — learn why it's important, and get hints for making reading fun and how to choose books for your child. Each participant will go home with a free children's

book. The workshop will be held Saturday, Jan. 29, at 10 a.m. in the library's auditorium. To register, call 230-3682 or email kgerber@concordnh.gov by Jan. 21. No child care will be provided, so please make child care arrangements.

• Hunt Building fundraiser planned: The Friends of the Hunt Memorial Building, which opened as Nashua's public library in 1903, will host a "psychic fair" fundraising event in the old Victorian reading room of the Hunt on Sunday, Jan. 9, from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Hunt building is on the corner of Main and Amherst streets in Nashua. Readers from Nashua's Ancient Moon, Milford and Salem will work with tea leaves, palmistry, tarot and goddess cards, numerology, scrying and aura portraits, as Victorians might have done. A portion of the proceeds will go to support restoration projects at the Hunt. The Friends of the HMB will have raffles and light refreshments available. Restoration and renovation of the Hunt Memorial Building will begin in February, with the expectation of reopening in late summer or fall. For more information on the fair or on joining the Friends of the HMB, call 883-8093. "You don't have to be a believer — just come for the fun of it," said Elizabeth Takacs, organizer of the event, in a press release. "We are working so that when the restoration is complete, the Hunt Memorial Building will become Nashua's vibrant community cultural center for all the diverse audiences that comprise our wonderful city." —Lisa Parsons

FILM REVIEWS BY AMY DIAZ

Coming soon at a theater near you

A cheese-dipped fresh start at the movies



Clockwise from top left, *Blue Valentine*, *The Green Hornet*, *I Am Number Four*, *Hall Pass*

By Amy Diaz
adiaz@hippopress.com

It's a new year! with new movies! and all new opportunities to make fun of Nicolas Cage!

With all of movie-world focused on the Golden Globes, the Oscars and the never-ending Lindsay Lohan saga, some of the new releases may get lost in the shuffle. And, while nobody's premiering next year's Oscar favorite this month, there are plenty of new releases on the horizon. Here is a look at some of the most interesting entries on the schedule, some of which may even be good, maybe even unironically good.

First, some unfinished business from last year.

• ***Country Strong***, which features Gwyneth Paltrow as a country singer trying to make a comeback, opened in limited, Oscar-eligible release a few days before Christmas but opens wide this Friday, Jan. 7. (The local press screening is scheduled for the evening of Jan. 6. Hmm.)

• ***Blue Valentine***, the no-longer-rated-NC-17 drama about a failing marriage starring Michelle Williams and current It-boy Ryan Gosling, also opened in some places in 2010 but opens in Boston this Friday, Jan. 7. Red River Theatres in Concord has it on the "coming soon" list along with other late-year releases *Rabbit Hole* (Nicole Kidman, Aaron Eckhart) and *Somewhere* (writer/director

Sofia Coppola's latest film), both of which are currently screening in Boston. *Another Year* (writer/director Mike Leigh's latest film) and the animated film *The Illusionist*, two other movies you may have seen on end-of-the-year best lists and in award nominations, are also scheduled to play at Red River "soon."

And now, for some actual 2011 releases (as currently scheduled; all of this could change if, like, James Cameron finds another four minutes of blue-cat-people sex and re-releases *Avatar* again):

• ***The Green Hornet*** Let's skip discussion of Nicolas Cage's *Season of the Witch* (a horror movie, probably in both senses, scheduled for release this Friday) and

that Vince Vaughn/Kevin James buddy comedy thing (*The Dilemma*; opening Jan. 14) and jump to next week and the Seth Rogen-fronted *The Green Hornet*. Cameron Diaz, Tom Wilkinson and Christoph Waltz also appear. Kato is played by Jay Chou (who seems very likeable from the trailers). Evan Goldberg co-wrote the movie with Rogen (the two wrote *Superbad* together as well), and Michel Gondry (*Be Kind Rewind* and *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*) directs.

• ***The Mechanic*** Jason Statham plays an assassin — yay! Opens on Friday, Jan. 28.

• ***The Rite*** Anthony Hopkins stars in some exorcism-focused bit of potential cheese-food also opening on Friday, Jan. 28.

• ***The Roommate*** Leighton Meester, who should be able to get better work than this, plays a disturbed-looking college freshman in a horror film about getting a super creepy roommate, scheduled to open on Friday, Feb. 4.

• ***Gnomeo & Juliet*** It's the Shakespeare classic but animated and with garden gnomes (FYI to high school students looking to get out of an English assignment: there are no gnomes in the original play). Opens on Friday, Feb. 11.

• ***Just Go With It*** Manchester's own Adam Sandler stars in this romantic comedy (there has to be one the weekend before Valentine's Day). Sandler plays a single guy whose "in" with the ladies is to pretend to be stuck in a bad marriage but who has to take the charade much farther when he finds a woman he wants to spend more than just one night with. Opens Feb. 11.

• ***Justin Bieber: Never Say Never*** As with Miley Cyrus and Jonas Brothers movies before it, this concert film is in 3-D. Parents of girls under 11 years old, buy your shriek-dampening ear plugs now. Opens Feb. 11.

• ***I Am Number Four*** Media junkies will recognize the name of this movie from a New York magazine story about James Frey (the guy broken into a million little pieces by Oprah) and his new outfit, Full Fathom Five, which is attempting to generate blockbuster young adult novels. The book (of the same name) this movie is based on spent five weeks on the children's chapter book New York Times Bestseller list, according to Wikipedia. Will all this add up to a *Twilight*-like phenomenon? We'll see on Feb. 18.

• ***Unknown Taken*** gave us a reason to go to the theater in February a few years ago. Its lead, Liam Neeson, stars in this movie about a man who awakens from an accident to find that another man has stepped into his identity. Opens on Feb. 18.

• ***Drive Angry 3D*** It's another Nicolas Cage film! "Hell already is walking the earth." Cage plays a dead man (with certain supernatural powers, of course, like, ability to walk around) looking for vengeance. Muscle cars and shoot-outs will keep you warm on Friday, Feb. 25.

• ***Hall Pass*** Another entry in the *The Hangover* genre of dude comedy: a man is give a free pass by his wife to engage in some bachelor-like debauchery for one week. The Farrelly brothers write and direct. Opens on Feb. 25.

Reviewlets: Snack-sized movie reviews

* Indicates a movie worth seeking out. Previously reviewed movies have grades. For full reviews of most movies here or movies previously released, go to www.hippopress.com.

****Black Swan* (R)**
Natalie Portman, Mila Kunis. A dark and strange drama from Darren Aronofsky, *Black Swan* is a movie full of small but elegant (and funny!) touches that all add up to a fascinating, mesmerizing movie. **B+**

****The Chronicle of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* (PG)**
Tilda Swinton, Simon Pegg. The third movie in the series returns two of the four original children to Narnia for a mostly

energetic new adventure. **B**
***Country Strong* (R)**
Gwyneth Paltrow, Tim McGraw. A veteran country singer attempts a career comeback. Opens in wide release on Friday, Jan. 7.

****The Fighter* (R)**
Mark Wahlberg, Amy Adams. Christian Bale and Melissa Leo shine in this well-acted movie about a Lowell boxer. **A**

***Gulliver's Travels* (PG)**
Jack Black, Jason Segel. Jack Black is Gulliver in this limp modern update of the classic story. **C**

***Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 1* (PG-13)**
Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson.

Harry and company go in search of some magical whatsits that could help them destroy Voldemort once and for all (in Part 2). **B-**

***How Do You Know* (PG-13)**
Reese Witherspoon, Paul Rudd. And Owen Wilson and Jack Nicholson. Lives come together in what appears to be a (very confusing, half-baked) romantic comedy. **D**

****The King's Speech* (R)**
Colin Firth, Geoffrey Rush. Excellent performances — Firth, Rush and Helena Bonham Carter as the Queen Mum — make for great fun in this historical biopic. **A**

***Little Fockers* (PG-13)**
Ben Stiller, Robert De Niro.

Part three in the saga of Greg Focker and his father-in-law, former CIA agent Jack Byrnes. **D**

****Megamind* (PG)**
Will Ferrell, Tina Fey. Good battles evil — and we're on the side of evil, specifically Megamind, the misunderstood, large-craniumed blue genius regularly defeated by the strong-jawed Metro Man. **A**

***Season of the Witch* (PG-13)**
Nicolas Cage, Ron Perlman. Each year some poor misbegotten major release has to go first, and this year it's this thing, which is being called a suspense/horror film, starring Cage as a medieval crusader tasked with taking a girl who is believed to be a

witch to an abbey. Opens in wide release on Friday, Jan. 7.

***The Social Network* (PG-13)**
Jesse Eisenberg, Justin Timberlake. The founding of Facebook gets the biopic treatment — and thanks to the Golden Globe nominations, it's back in theaters. **B+**

***Tangled* (PG)**
Voices of Mandy Moore, Zachary Levi. Disney reworks the Rapunzel story. **B-**

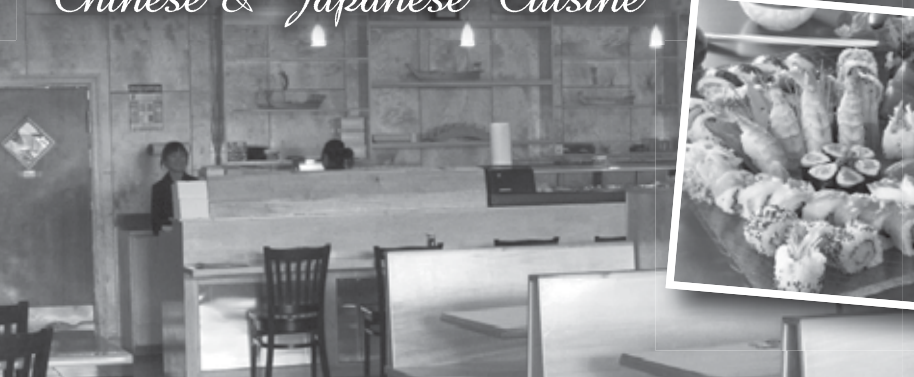
***The Tourist* (PG-13)**
Angelina Jolie, Johnny Depp. Sexy people (Jolie and Depp) are in sexy locales (Paris, Venice) in this dull caper film. **C**

****TRON: Legacy* (PG)**
Jeff Bridges, Olivia Wilde. Return to the pre-Internet fantasy of the computer age with this delightfully fun and visually entertaining sequel to the 1982 movie. *TRON: Legacy* is hopelessly goofy but it is — or rather it becomes as you travel through it — charming, both for its nostalgia value and for its genuine and more-or-less successful attempt to bring you a sparkling sci-fi adventure. **B+**

****True Grit* (R)**
Jeff Bridges, Matt Damon. Hailee Steinfeld has the truly stand-out role as a 14-year-old determined to bring the man (Josh Brolin) who killed her father to justice. An excellent update of a classic Western. **A-**

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Tiny Furniture

Tiny Furniture (NR)

A recent college graduate is finding it hard to adjust to life outside academia in *Tiny Furniture*, a grainy little comedy.

Aura (Lena Dunham, also the film's writer and director) arrives back home in New York City after graduating from college in Ohio. She has vague plans to eventually move into an apartment with a college friend, but for the immediate future she is sharing a room with her younger sister Nadine (Grace Dunham) in their mother's (Laurie Simmons) loft. Siri, their mother, is a successful photographer whose latest pieces feature miniature furniture photographed with, for example, a regular-sized high-heeled shoe. Some sort of film major, Aura made a student film (a rather embarrassing one) that has won her hits on YouTube but not a real sense of what to do with her life. Even her connections to friends feel slight. She goes to a party where she meets Jed (Alex Karpovsky), a minor YouTube celebrity in town whose plan for a comedy show is only slightly less vague than Aura's life plans. She also reconnects with Charlotte (Jemima Kirke), a childhood friend and now a party girl. Charlotte helps Aura get a job as a day hostess at a restaurant open only for dinner — it's a low-pressure job but somehow Aura manages to do it shabbily. Her main focus seems to be flirting with one of the chefs, Keith (David Call).

Tiny Furniture reminds me of the Whit Stillman film *Metropolitan* — both movies are a bit mannered and deal with young people ill-at-ease with their place in the world. And both movies could be seen as either very funny or very irritating depending on your mindset and possibly on your age. *Tiny Furniture* feels more self-indulgent and more self-pitying, which again makes it more raw and maybe also more annoying. I can see someone making an argument both ways and I would agree with either argument. The movie is making too much of a period in life when your problems ultimately aren't as big as you think they are (remember what qualified as "tragic" when you were 22?) or as dramatic as you think they are, and also it is pointing them out for the "tiny furniture" they are.

The movie also reminded me, in a very stripped-down way, of a Jane Austen novel. The movie takes a microscope to a specific kind of domestic life and picks apart the etiquette and the pitfalls and even the small joys. The movie might get absurdist at times but the relationships between the mother and her

daughters and between the two sisters feel perfectly calibrated.

Details are a strong suit of this movie, which captures people of that age in a delightfully realistic way. Aura is quite pretty but she also seems like a real girl — not completely confident with herself, capable of both dressing up and dressing her (wonderfully imperfect) body badly. The apartment her family lives in is fantastic and it is also too small to contain the whirlwind of confusion Aura faces.

Tiny Furniture is funny and occasionally touching and overall a pleasure to watch, particularly when you are well removed from the life circumstances it portrays. **B**

Not rated. Written and directed by Lena Dunham, Tiny Furniture is an hour and 38 minutes long and distributed in limited release by IFC Films. It is available through the IFC Films section of Comcast OnDemand.

All Good Things (R)

A wealthy family with a dark past is the subject of *All Good Things*, a movie based on the real-life story of a New York real estate family and its troubled son.

The movie is a fictionalized account and the names have been changed — so to be clear, it's the movie I'm discussing here.

David Marks (Ryan Gosling) is the son of real estate developer Sanford Marks (Frank Langella), owner of large swaths of property in New York City. David isn't particularly interested in working for his dad or being part of 1970s New York elite but hangs on, sullenly going to his father's social events and seeming to lack the will to break out of his father's shadow. That is until he meets Katie (Kirsten Dunst), a young would-be medical student living in one of his father's properties. He develops a fast attraction to her and the pair soon are married and living in Vermont, where they run a health food store called All Good Things. But the store doesn't really make money and Sanford is still supporting David through family trusts. It's this string that he yanks to get David to move back to New York City to work in the family business. Reluctantly the pair go, and slowly Katie realizes David isn't entirely the man she thought she'd married. His longtime friend Deborah (Lily Rabe) tells Katie about his troubled childhood (he saw his mother commit suicide) and David himself grows squirrely when Katie mentions having children.

Eventually, Katie decides to fulfill her medical school dreams and the distance between her

and David grows, pushing this already unstable man to the edge. She tries to leave him but finds the process more difficult and dangerous than she'd imagined. Their troubles come to a head one night in 1982 out at their country lake house and then Katie vanishes.

We catch up with David again nearly two decades later. Now he's living in Texas, dressing as a woman and posing as mute. He befriends (sorta) a curmudgeonly neighbor named Malvern Bump (Philip Baker Hall). Perhaps he suggests to Bump that they can move in together if he does David this one little favor. Or perhaps Bump is himself a dangerous and delusional man who threatens David, who is now under investigation for Katie's death and is afraid of being pulled back into that world. Whatever the cause, Bump ends up dead and chopped up in many pieces and the movie is bookended by a now old David telling his life story while on the stand charged with Bump's murder.

Once upon a time, this would have made for a juicy, tawdry based-on-a-true-story TV movie. And while the movie features all sorts of serious actors — Gosling, Langella, Hall — junk-food TV movie is the level on which it is enjoyable. Not to disparage this creepy tale — it is a solid and disturbing TV movie, one that will keep you watching even when you know where everything is going. Langella is entertaining as the movie's malevolent force — not quite the villain but definitely the harbinger of bad things to come. Gosling is nicely shaky and strange — maybe he's nuts, maybe he's nuts and murderous, you're never quite sure. Even Dunst gives a bit more to her character than just "wife in distress."

And ultimately it's the performances that help elevate *All Good Things* above the level of just morbid curiosity. **B-**

Rated R for drug use, violence, language and some sexuality. Directed by Andrew Jarrecki and written by Marcus Hinchey and Marc Smerling, All Good Things is an hour and 41 minutes long and is distributed in limited release. It is available through the Magnolia Films section of Comcast's OnDemand.

White Material (NR)

A woman is obsessed with harvesting the coffee on her family's plantation even as a civil war erupts around her in *White Material*, an intense but confusing French drama.

We meet Maria Vial (Isabelle Huppert) as she stands on a dusty rural road in an African country (we never learn which) attempting to flag down a ride. We learn through flashbacks that she is the manager (though not, strictly speaking, the owner) of a coffee plantation. She is completely devoted to the plantation and to farming its crop and she is, it seems, deeply in love with the country she lives in. She is also white and the country she considers "hers" is in the middle of a civil war. The rebels — led by the Boxer (Isaach De Bankole) — use animosity toward the whites and their "white material" (which appears to mean the trappings of luxury held by the whites, evidence of the oppression of colonialism) to foment support for their (never defined) cause. The rebels might be leading a ragtag army full of machete-wielding child soldiers but their position on the white population doesn't seem too different from the government's, which attempts to discredit the Boxer by saying he

is hiding out with white farm owners. Which he sort of is — he shows up at Maria's farm and she lets him stay, offering him food and a bed (it's never completely clear whether she knows who he is, though she at least suspects).

The government also wants to see Maria leave — helicoptering over her farm telling her via bullhorn to get out and then dropping survival kits, the last help she'll see from them, it's implied, when she tells them she won't leave.

And why won't she leave? The farm is technically owned by her ex-father-in-law Henri (Michel Subor), with whom she seems to think she has some understanding that he will leave it to her. But her ex-husband Andre (Christopher Lambert) is the one with the legal rights to it, rights he's willing to give away to the local mayor (who has his own militia) if it means he and his family can get out alive. Andre lives on the farm with his new wife, a black African, and their young son. Maria seems to live in another house on the property with the teenage son she and Andre have together. He, Manuel (Nicolas Duvauchelle), has rooms in both her and Andre's house and seems content to spend his days sleeping in one or the other house. And while Maria needs all the help she can get to bring in the harvest, she is fiercely defensive when workers suggest that she get him to help.

So why won't she leave? It's not clear. Even as the farm loses workers and loses power and child soldiers of uncertain intention show up, Maria seems to think only of the farm, not seeming to notice it all unraveling around her.

Huppert is engrossing. You can never quite figure out what Maria is thinking or feeling at any one moment, why she does what she does — particularly during the film's strange final moments. On the one hand Maria seems to deeply care about her land — and she does consider this her land — in a way none of the other members of her family do. She says she is rooted here and it seems to mean both that she has deep connections to the country in general and the plantation specifically but also that this is where she is at home, where she is comfortable being, and she can't image leaving. On the other hand, she is completely oblivious to what is happening in "her" country. Not only does she seem determined to ignore the war but she refuses to acknowledge her position as a white farmer and what that could mean in terms of the fight between two sides, neither of whom like people like her. Nor does she seem to acknowledge why white farmers are the object of so much hate.

For all that her character is fascinating to watch and the scenes of a country coming apart are well constructed, *White Material* feels more good-for-you than good. It is an interesting story with details that you'll mull over for days after seeing it, but it isn't captivating storytelling. Some combination of the pace of the movie and the arm's length at which it holds its characters kept me from losing myself in the story. With no fundamental understanding of the central character (or even, for the first third of the movie, who everyone is in relation to each other), I didn't feel invested in this story. **C**

Not rated. Directed by Claire Denis and written by Denis and Marie N'Diaye, White Material is an hour and 42 minutes long and distributed in limited release by IFC Films. The movie is available through the IFC Films category on Comcast's OnDemand service.

POP CULTURE:

FILM Continued

Cinema locator

AMC Tyngsborough
440 Middlesex St., Tyngsborough,
Mass., 978-649-3980.
Chunky's Cinema & Pub Nashua
151 Coliseum Ave., chunkys.com
Chunky's Pelham Cinema & Pub
150 Bridge St., Pelham, 635-7499
Cinemagic Hooksett
1226 Hooksett Road, Hooksett,
644-4629, cinemagicmovies.com

Cinemagic Merrimack 12
11 Executive Place Dr., Merrimack,
423-0240, cinemagicmovies.com
Flagship Cinemas Derry
10 Ashleigh Dr., Derry, 437-8800
AMC at The Loop
90 Pleasant Valley St., Methuen,
Mass., 978-738-8942
O'Neil Cinema 12
Apple Tree Mall, Londonderry,
434-8633

Regal Concord
282 Loudon Road, Concord, 226-
3800
Regal Hooksett 8
100 Technology Dr., Hooksett,
641-3456
Showcase Cinemas Lowell
32 Reiss Ave., Lowell, Mass.,
978-551-0055

Movies outside the cineplex

RED RIVER THEATRES

11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600,
www.redrivertheatres.org
• **Black Swan** (R, 2010) Thurs.,
Jan. 6, at 2:10, 5:40 & 8:05 p.m.;
Fri., Jan. 7, through Sun., Jan. 9, at
1:15, 3:45, 6:25 & 8:55 p.m.; Mon.,
Jan. 10, and Tues., Jan. 11, at 2:10,
5:40 & 8:05 p.m.; Wed., Jan. 12, at
2:10 & 5:40 p.m.; Thurs., Jan. 13, at
2:10, 5:45 & 8:05 p.m.
• **The King's Speech** (R, 2010)
Thurs., Jan. 6, at 2, 5:25 & 8 p.m.;
Fri., Jan. 7, through Sun., Jan. 9, at
12:30, 3:15, 6 & 8:40 p.m.; Mon.,
Jan. 10, and Tues., Jan. 11, at 2,
5:25 & 8 p.m.; Wed., Jan. 12, at 2
& 5:25 p.m.; Thurs., Jan. 13, at 2,
5:25 & 8 p.m.
• **After The Thin Man** (1936)
Thurs., Jan. 6, at 2:05, 5:30 & 7:45
p.m.
• **Vision: From the Life of Hilde-
gard Von Bingen** (NR, 2009) Fri.,
Jan. 7, through Mon., Jan. 10, at
2:05, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.
• **Very Young Girls** (NR, 2007, a
documentary about sex trafficking)
on Tues., Jan. 11. Free admission;
call for reservations.
• **Hockey Night: Slap Shot** (1977)
or **Miracle** (2004) Wed., Jan. 12, at
8 p.m.
• **Bilal's Stand** (2010) part of a Mar-
tin Luther King Jr. Day program
with a Q&A with the filmmaker
after the film on Sun., Jan. 16, at
4 p.m. Other screenings include
Mon., Jan. 17, through Thurs., Jan.
20, at 2 & 7 p.m.
• **Going Blind** (a documentary
about blindness with a post-film
panel discussion) on Fri., Jan. 24,
at 5:30 p.m. Free but call to reserve
a seat.

• **RED CARPET** Red River The-
atres' third annual Red Carpet event
will be on Sun., Feb. 27 (the night
of the Academy Awards). Attendees
are invited to dress up Hollywood-
style and walk the red carpet into
the theaters, where they can watch
the award show live on the big
screens, enjoy some live music
and food from local restaurants and
take part in movie trivia and other
fun. Tickets purchased before Jan.
25 cost \$50 per person. (After that,
tickets cost \$60 in advance, \$75 on
the day of the event.)

WILTON TOWN HALL

Main Street in Wilton. wiltontown-
halltheatre.com or call 654-FILM.
• **Fair Game** (PG-13, 2010) Thurs.,
Jan. 6, at 7:30 p.m.
• **Black Swan** (R, 2010) Thurs., Jan.
6, through Thurs., Jan. 13, at 7:30
p.m. Plus, Sun., Jan. 9, at 2 & 4:30
p.m.
• **All Good Things** (NR, 2010) Fri.,
Jan. 7, through Thurs. Jan. 13, at
7:30 p.m. Plus, Sun., Jan. 9, at 2 &
4:30 p.m.
• **Above Suspicious** (1943) Sat.,
Jan. 8, at 4:30 p.m.

FRANCO-AMERICAN
CENTRE

52 Concord St., Manchester,
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centrenh.com
• **Cinema Mardi** French language
movie, with subtitles, show on the
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MANCHESTER CITY
LIBRARY

405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-
6550, www.manchester.lib.nh.us
• **The Road** (R, 2009) Tues., Jan.
11, at 6 p.m. and Wed., Jan. 12, at
1 p.m.
• **Young Victoria** (PG, 2009) Wed.,
Jan. 19, at 1 p.m.
• **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG-
13, 2010) Tues., Jan. 25, at 4 p.m.
• **My Best Friend's Wedding** (PG-
13, 1997) Wed., Jan. 26, at 1 p.m.
• **Labyrinth** (G, 1986) Wed., Feb.
2, at 1 p.m.
• **Clash of the Titans** (PG-13, 2010)
Tues., Feb. 8, at 6 p.m.
• **Iron Man 2** (PG-13, 2010) Wed.,
Feb. 9, at 1 p.m.
• **Pirates of Penzance** (G, 1983)
Wed., Feb. 16, at 1 p.m.
• **The Last Airbender** (PG, 2010)
Tues., Feb. 22, at 4 p.m.
• **The Indian in the Cupboard** (PG,
1995) Wed., Feb. 23, at 1 p.m.

WEST BRANCH
COMMUNITY LIBRARY

76 N. Main St., Manchester, 624-
6560, www.manchester.lib.nh.us
• **Shrek Forever After** (PG, 2010)
Fri., Jan. 7, at 3 p.m.
• **Nanny McPhee Returns** (PG,
2010) Fri., Jan. 14, at 3 p.m.

NASHUA PUBLIC
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NPL Theater, 2 Court St., Nashua,
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• **Cinema Cabaret Film** Friday
night at 7 p.m. The last Friday of
the month is a family film.
• **Family Film** Saturday at 2 p.m.
Children 6 and under must be
accompanied by an adult.
• **World Cinema Film** The third
Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.
Series includes features, documen-
taries, foreign films and indies.
• **Artists on Film** The third Sunday
of the month at 2 p.m.

POLLARD MEMORIAL
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978-970-4120, www.pollardml.org
• **Independent film night** on the
second Thursday of each month
from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Films are not
rated.
• **1981** (a film directed by Richardo
Trogli) on Thurs., Jan. 13, at 6:30 p.m.

THE MUSIC HALL

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-
2400, www.themusichall.org
• **Nowhere Boy** (R, 2010) Fri., Jan.
7, through Wed., Jan. 12, at 7 p.m.
Plus, Sun., Jan. 9, at 2 p.m.
• **Metropolis** (1927) Fri., Jan. 14,
at 7 p.m.
• **All Good Things** (R, 2010) Sat.,
Jan. 15, through Thurs., Jan. 20, at
7 p.m. Plus, Sun., Jan. 16, at 2 p.m.
• **Vision** (NR, 2010) Sun., Jan.
23, at 2 & 7 p.m.; Mon., Jan. 24,
through Wed., Jan. 26, at 7 p.m.
• **Waiting for "Superman"** (PG,
2010) Thurs., Jan. 27, at 7 p.m.
• **Tiny Furniture** (NR, 2010) Fri.,
Jan. 28, through Wed., Feb. 2, at
7 p.m.
• **Tangled** (PG, 2010) Sat., Jan. 29,
at 2 p.m.

NEWBURYPORT
SCREENING ROOM

82 State St., Newburyport, Mass.,
978-462-3456, www.newburyport-
movies.com
• **Tamara Drew** (R, 2010) Thurs.,
Jan. 6, at 7:30 p.m.
• **Waiting for "Superman"** (PG,
2010) Fri., Jan. 7, at 6 & 8:45 p.m.;
Sat., Jan. 8, at 3:15, 6 & 8:45 p.m.;
Sun., Jan. 9, at 4:45 & 7:30 p.m.;
Mon., Jan. 10, through Thurs., Jan.
13, at 7:30 p.m.

THE COLONIAL THEATRE

95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033,
www.thecolonial.org
• **Fair Game** (R, 2010) Thurs., Jan.
6, at 7 p.m.

OTHER

• **WHERE DO THE CHILDREN
PLAY** a documentary based on the
book by Elizabeth Goodenough,
The Secret Spaces of Childhood,
followed by a discussion at the
Massabesic Audubon Center (26
Audubon Way, Amherst, 668-2045,
nhaudubon.org) on Thurs., Jan. 13,
at 6 p.m. Admission costs \$12 per
person; call to register (required).
• **MYSTERY SCIENCE THE-
ATER 3000** MSTies, rejoice! Joel
the 'bots, Dr. Forrester, Pearl For-
rester and TV's Frank, the original
cast of *Mystery Science Theater
3000*, will come to the Capitol
Center for the Arts, 44 S.Main St.
in Concord, 225-1111, www.ccanh.
com, on Sat., Jan. 29, for shows at 7
and 9:30 p.m. The Cap Center will
screen cheesy movies for your com-
menting pleasure. Ticket cost \$25
to \$45 for admission to one show
and \$37.50 through \$67.50 for two
shows.
• **SUNDAY AFTERNOON MAT-
INEES** at the Massabesic Audubon
Center (26 Audubon Way, Amherst,
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8:00 Wed., 2:00, 5:25

BLACK SWAN (R/2010/103 min.)
Fri., Sat., Sun., 1:15, 3:45, 6:25, 8:55 Mon., Tue., Thu., 2:10, 5:40,
8:05 Wed., 2:10, 5:40

VISION: FROM THE LIFE OF HILDEGARD VON BINGEN
(NR/2009/110 min.) *In the Screening Room*
Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon., 2:05, 5:30, 7:45

SLAP SHOT (R/1977/123 min.)
Wed., 8:00

MIRACLE (PG/2004/135 min.)
Wed., 8:00

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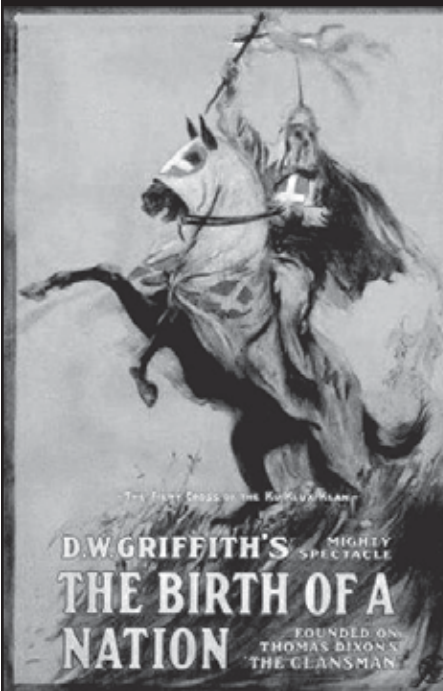
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Nite Roundup

Local music
& nightlife news

By Michael Witthaus
music@hippopress.com

• **Bring the runk:** You know those pick-up truck bumper stickers that say, “Yeah, it’s a Hemi”? Boston-based Otis Grove’s message could be, “Damn straight, it’s a B-3.” Their vintage sound mixes old-school funk, electrified jazz-fusion and modern hip-hop rhythms into a hopped-up hybrid of influences that’s evident in the title of their most recent original album, *The Runk*. See Otis Grove on Saturday, Jan. 8, at 9 p.m. at Penuche’s Ale House, 6 Pleasant St. in Concord. Call 228-9833 or go to www.otisgrove.net for more information.

• **Torching 2010:** Here’s a novel way to mark the end of the holiday season. Auburn Pitts is holding its 16th annual Christmas Tree Burning party, complete with food and drink specials and live music from American Mixer, a seven-piece band specializing in jam-based funk, reggae and rhythms driven by twin lead guitars. Bring your calendar for kindling. Attend the Christmas Tree Burning Party with American Mixer on Saturday, Jan. 8, at 3 p.m. at Auburn Pitts, 167 Rockingham Road in Auburn. For more, call 622-6564.

• **Rockin’ weekend:** Acoustic rocker and former Viper Room denizen Ronnie Adams has a weekend of Manch Vegas appearances beginning with a Thursday night set at a Valley Street pizzeria. Friday, Adams kicks out the jams at Johnny Bad’s (222-9191), and Saturday, he plays Mad Bob’s Saloon (669-3049), mixing covers and originals. See Rockin’ Ronnie Adams on Thursday, Jan. 6, at 6 p.m. at Luigi’s Pizza, 712 Valley St. in Manchester. For more, go to www.reverbnation.com/rockinronnieadams.

• **Beloved duo:** David Stefanelli should be off touring with Godsmack’s Sully Erna sometime this year, but in the meantime he’s keeping busy playing covers with Mama Kicks and occasionally heading out with Michael Troy to revive the Beloved Few, a band that had an impressive run in the late 1990s. It’s good to have them back. See The Beloved Few on Thursday, Jan. 6, at 8 p.m. at the Pasta Loft, 220 E. Main St. in East Hampstead. For more, call 378-0092 or go to www.belovedfew.com.

• **The good fight:** A local band talent contest judged by industry heavies AJ Tobey, Cody Delong, and Matt Wentworth features more \$4,500.00 in prize money along with recording time in a well-appointed Hollis studio. With more than 12 local bands on the bill, including Die Another Day, Forever the Fallen, Anchorlines and Kyridian, it’s also an excuse to go out and get your rock on. Attend the Battle of the Bands on Saturday, Jan. 8, at 4 p.m. at Rocko’s, 253 Wilson St. in Manchester. Tickets \$15 at www.imthirstyentertainment.com.

The mike is open for laughs

Shaskeen offers local comics a place to call home

By Michael Witthaus
music@hippopress.com

When Nick David and Brad Hagen approached the owners of the Shaskeen two years ago, they were a couple of Manchester comedians looking for a place to hone their skills. To the happy surprise of both, the weekly open-mike night they launched became a touchstone for comics from all over the region.

“The first week it started out very slow — we had seven or eight comics,” Hagen says. “That was pretty much the crowd — the comedians. By the holiday season, it was like 60-plus back here. We realized we had something on our hands; we had no idea what was going on.”

Early on, most of the performers were comics trying to build careers, not water cooler funny guys. Many had worked at a moderately successful Friday night gathering at the nearby Bridge Café, which, Hagen says, “at its peak it was getting 20-plus comedians a week. You could tell there was a scene, and since it was so tight knit, when this started up, everyone on stage took it seriously, putting their time in and trying to be as funny as they could.”

Short, crisp sets are the rule, with the weekly slate limited to 15 comedians doing five minutes each. When there are fewer signups, sets can get as long as six to 10 minutes. If well-known comics like Juston McKinney or Rob Steen drop by, “they get as much time as they want,” Hagen says with a laugh.

The event’s professional pace made it popular with non-comics, a factor that’s helped it grow.

“It’s labeled an open mike,” says Nick Lavallee, who started coming in early 2009, “but anytime you have 50 audience members, that’s a legit room.” If a comic can make people laugh at the Shaskeen, he can do it in Portland or Portsmouth.

Boynton’s special sells big

With Dueling Pianos, the audience is the show

By Michael Witthaus
music@hippopress.com

The first thing to know about Dueling Pianos: don’t buy a ticket if all you plan to do sit and watch. Although the guys tickling the keys are great players, audience participation is the ingredient that makes it such a hit with the Boynton’s Taproom crowd. It’s equal parts performance and house party — one that’s been taken over by a gaggle of highly extroverted musicians.

Before the night begins, patrons fill a tip jar at center stage with money and scraps of paper scrawled with requests. Two pianos arranged in a V sit behind it. Chris Keenan and Craig McMahon, who both cut their teeth playing at Jake Ivory’s in the shadow of Fenway Park in Boston, launch into Neil

“You’re getting a lot more experience out of this room than another room,” Hagen says. “That makes you a better comedian. These people would show up and actually enjoy all the comedians they saw on Wednesday night. Once they saw it people would come up and then ask for a spot on next week’s show.”

A celebratory mood permeated on a recent November night as Juston McKinney headlined a show celebrating the “Comedy Jam” night’s second anniversary in the back room of the soccer scarf-festooned bar. Local comics who’d come up through the weekly event rounded out the bill, and the night seemed more about being together. Prior to his set, Lavallee sat at the bar and talked about the burgeoning community that the open-mike night spawned.

As front man for a local punk band, Lavallee heard more than once that he was a born funny man; eventually, he brought some of his material to the Shaskeen.

“Most musicians would be offended to hear, ‘Dude, the music’s OK, but you’re a comedian,’” said Lavallee. “But I always knew in the back of my mind that I would give this a shot. I had been writing stuff for over a year, and then I got wind of this open-mike night that Brad and Nick do.”

By 2010, Lavallee was on his way to becoming an established comic and appearing at shows with national talents like Bo Burnham. He calls his comedy “a hobby that I hope to turn into a second income.”

Lavallee has released two CDs, the most recent featuring “I Love You, Sally Struthers.” He and Struthers snog and grope in the video for the song, which became a small Internet sensation. It’s really her, explains Lavallee. “We dated for a bit, we were going to be the world’s worst celebrity couple.”

It’s a hometown crowd on both sides of the microphone, says Hagen.

“We come from the same place. If you



Juston McKinney headlining the second-anniversary show of open-mike comedy at The Shaskeen last November. Michael Witthaus photo.

come from Manchester there’s no hiding it. Instantly you have something in common, and friendships build.” In places like Boston, the scene is much more competitive — “It’s harder to find a cohesive group of people who care about each other. We all high five each other a lot.”

Last fall, Hagen spent a few months in New York City and found that even the best new joke might elicit at best a chuckle.

“Other comedians ... don’t want to laugh or support other people’s stuff. They’re thinking of better punchlines in their head, or tweaking what you said. Then I’d try it out in front of a real audience and it would kill. You don’t get the learning curve with regular open mikes that you get here.”

Because of this, a lot of Boston comedians who do regular weekend work will frequently fill up a car and come up to the nurturing environment of the Shaskeen. “It gives you an honest opinion of your jokes, where other rooms just don’t do that,” says Lavallee. “That’s the essence of the room — what Nick and Brad did here was build a community. It wasn’t just another comedy show, that’s what separates the Shaskeen. I don’t think they intentionally did it; it just sort of happened.”

Open-mike comedy jam

Where: The Shaskeen, 909 Elm St. in Manchester

When: Wednesdays at 9 p.m.

Info: www.theshaskeen.com

After a few rounds of “Hey Baby” from the *Dirty Dancing* soundtrack, it’s really a toss-up. One thing’s certain, however: everyone is having a good time, and a steady stream of bills and requests is added to the beer pitcher tip jar as the four-hour show progresses.

No song is off limits. There’s not a piano within miles of the original versions of Bryan Adams’ “Summer of ’69” (which begins with the line, “I got my first real six-string”) or Charlie Daniels’ “The Devil Went Down to Georgia.” But Johnny and the Devil’s battle for fiddle supremacy produces some crackling ivory jams.

There’s one exception to the above rule: any ballad must be a power ballad. “The Rose” is heartily booed, but Bad Company’s “Feel Like Making Love” or REO Speedwagon’s “Keep On Loving You” are both

NITE

fine for the boisterous crowd. The latter sparks an '80s musical war between the two piano players. Selections from the Bangles, Prince, and a few other MTV-era staples ensue in quick succession.

"It's a core of songs that everybody knows," says McMahon during his break (three pianists rotate so the action is non-stop). How much is scripted versus made up on the spot is "sort of a trade secret." McMahon took up dueling piano almost 15 years ago, playing the Michigan bar circuit. It's an avocation — by day he teaches music to elementary-school kids. The same is true for Keenan, who works as an accountant when he's not whipping up the crowd at this big everyman's party.

To say the act has caught on is a bit of an understatement. Josh Boynton first booked them in August 2010 for monthly appearances. For seven months, every show was a complete sellout, usually months in advance. Beginning in January 2011, Boynton has doubled their appearances. The club presents comedians, folksingers, even the occasional rock star like John Waite, but nothing has succeeded like this show.

"I can book the best musicians in the world and sell 40 tickets, but for some reason two guys and two pianos pack the place," Boynton says. "I don't know what it is — maybe you can tell me."

It's really not that hard to figure out. Go



Dueling Pianos. Michael Witthaus photo.

to any comedy show and there's always some yahoo who wants to banter their way into the act, while music shows are often interrupted by chatterboxes who don't realize it's better to shut up and listen. With Dueling Pianos, there are no such problems. Whether it's a table full of friends joining in chorus, an impromptu battle of the sexes for "Paradise By The Dashboard Light" or, in the case of one slightly inebriated patron, leading the house in a sing-along of Amy Winehouse's "Rehab," the audience is the show.

Dueling Pianos

Where: Boynton's Taproom, 155 Dow St., 3rd floor, Manchester, 623-7778

When: Twice monthly. Check www.boyntonstaproom.com for dates and tickets

CONCERTS

Venues

Capitol Center for the Performing Arts

44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com

The Colonial Theatre

95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, thecolonial.org

Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College

100 Saint Anselm Dr., Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/DANA/

Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom

169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, casinoballroom.com

Ledy Center

• Liz Longley and Seth Glier

Fri., Jan. 7, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• Gandalf Murphy and the Slambovian Circus of Dreams

Sat., Jan. 8, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• Kenny White

Thurs., Jan. 13, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• Eilen Jewell

Fri., Jan. 14, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• Apple Hill Chamber Players

Sat., Jan. 15, at 8 p.m., Colonial Theatre

• A 'Moment in Time' Tribute to Benny Goodman

Sun., Jan. 16, at 4 p.m., Cap Center

• Big Bad Voodoo Daddy

Tues., Jan. 18, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• Enter the Haggis

Thurs., Jan. 20, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• Johnny Winter

Fri., Jan. 21, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings

Fri., Jan. 21, at 8 p.m., The Music Hall

• Steve Forbert

Sat., Jan. 22, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• Martin Earley

Sat., Jan. 22, at 8 p.m., Boynton's

• The Velveten Playboys

Thurs., Jan. 27, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

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The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center

316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, themiddlenh.org

The Music Hall

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org

The Old Meeting House,

1 New Boston Rd., Francetown

Palace Theatre

80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org

• Cheryl Wheeler

Fri., Jan. 28, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• Savoy Brown

Sat., Jan. 29, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• Don McLean

Wed., Feb. 2, at 5 & 8 p.m., Tupelo

• John Mellencamp

Thurs., Feb. 3, at 8:30 p.m., Lowell Auditorium

• Don White and the Loomers

Sat., Feb. 5, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• Wildvine Jazz

Sat., Feb. 5, at 8 p.m., Boynton's

• Jeffrey Gaines

Sat., Feb. 5, at 8 p.m., Rochester Opera House

• Matt Stubs Band with Sax Gordon

Fri., Feb. 11, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• The Legendary Drifters

Fri., Feb. 11, at 7:30 p.m., Palace

• Jane Monheit

Fri., Feb. 11, at 8 p.m., The Music Hall

• Pat Travers Band

Sat., Feb. 12, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• Phil Vassar

Sat., Feb. 12, at 8 p.m., Lowell Auditorium

• Keiko Matsui

Sun., Feb. 13, at 7 p.m., Tupelo

• James Hunter

Thurs., Feb. 17, at 8 p.m., The Music Hall

• Lucy Kaplansky

Fri., Feb. 18,

Rochester Opera House

31 Wakefield St., Rochester

335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com

Stockbridge Theatre

Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com

Tupelo Music Hall

2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com

Verizon Wireless Arena

555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, www.verizonwirelessarena.com

Whittemore Center Arena UNH

128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, www.whittcenter.com

• The Four Piano Men

Fri., Feb. 18, at 7:30 p.m., Palace

• The Jimmy Lehoux Band

Sat., Feb. 19, at 8 p.m., Boynton's

• The Four Piano Men

Sat., Feb. 19, at 7:30 p.m., Palace

• Marshall Crenshaw

Sat., Feb. 19, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• The Four Piano Men

Fri., Feb. 20, at 2 p.m., Palace

• Beth Hart

Thurs., Feb. 24, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• The Four Piano Men

Fri., Feb. 25, at 7:30 p.m., Palace

• The Pink Floyd Experience

Fri., Feb. 25, at 8 p.m., Lowell Auditorium

• The Fools

Fri., Feb. 25, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• The Four Piano Men

Sat., Feb. 26, at 7:30 p.m., Palace

• James Hunter

Sat., Feb. 26, at 8 p.m., Tupelo

• The Four Piano Men

Sun., Feb. 27, at 2 p.m., Palace

• Robert Cray & Shemekia Copeland

Tues., March 1, at 7:30 p.m., The Music Hall

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Across

1. ‘Argus’ rockers Wishbone ____

4. ‘Eyes’ to Bee Gees

7. Famous record company

10. What career finally did

12. Duran Duran ‘____ Prayer’ (4,1)

14. ‘Kiss From A Rose’ singer
15. Cake ‘Italian Leather ____’

16. High point of career

17. Madonna ‘Don’t ____ Me’

18. Pop ____ (4,3,6)

21. America ‘____ Man’

22. Soul Asylum ‘Without A ____’

23. Growled vocal delivery

27. Slow number

31. Dropkick Murphys ‘Bloody Pig ____’

32. Worn by 80s ‘Saint’ band

35. Smashing Pumpkin James

36. Flamingos ‘I ____ You’ (4,4,4,3)

40. ‘The Road To Hell’ Chris

41. Strings and CDs, for example

42. Springsteen’s Fender model (abbr)

43. Souvenir item

45. Utah rockers (3,4)

48. Eyes Set To Kill song that gets to?

51. Adam of ‘Strip’ fame

52. ‘Lifestyles Of The Rich And Famous’ band (4,9)

57. ‘This And That’ Michael

58. Taylor Swift “pal” West

59. “Duke, duke, duke, duke of ____”

61. Soldier Of Love (Lay Down Your ____)
62. ‘Smeared’ Canadian rockers

63. Pearl Jam’s ‘Act’

64. Popular UK mag (abbr)

65. Gallaghers, for example

66. Concert “adventure ammo”

Down

1. “Back” stage

2. How Danger Radio moves

3. REM ‘New Adventures In ____’

4. Cheese-bomb Starship ballad

5. ‘I And Love And You’ brothers

6. Noir ____

7. ‘Sell Out’ ____ Big Fish

8. Robert Johnson had a ‘Milkcow’ one

9. Sammy Hagar ‘Winner Takes It ____’

11. Roger of The Who

12. This Ain’t A ____, It’s An Arms Race

13. Encouraging Massive Attack song? (4,3)

14. ‘Wheels’ to Stones

19. Repeated word in Black Eyed Peas song about Kim?

20. What Dangerous Toys tried to do

23. Triumph ‘____ Of Kings’

24. Stereophonics ‘Step On My Old Size ____’

25. Cat Stevens’ God
26. ‘I Hear You Knocking’ Edmunds

28. Skynyrd ‘____ Lessons’

29. Cutthroat music exec (abbr)

30. What you did to make buddy stage dive

33. ‘Murmur’ band

34. ‘Wasting Time’ pop punkers

37. What prodigy got after audition

38. Stage fright causes them

39. Singing cured it, for Mel Tillis

44. Former RHCP drummer Jack

46. Drummer Alex Van ____

47. Producer Brian

49. Phish ‘____ Dust Torture’

50. Finnish Glamsters ____ Rocks

52. Unhealthy Otep song?

53. “Lean ____, when you’re not strong” (2,2)

54. Cardinals leader Adams

55. What Powderfinger chases?

56. Himerus’ sidekick to Spill Canvas

57. Cross-stage camera move

60. Short-run album release (abbr)

© 2010 Todd Santos
Written By: Todd Santo

12/30

A	F	A	C	E		S	T	E	M		P	E	G	S
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54

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Friday, January 28 | 8pm
Otto and George, Sean Sullivan
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Friday, February 18 | 8pm
The Steve Sweeney Show with Tom Gilmore
& Chris Dimitrakopoulos | \$20*

One night only: Steve Sweeney was born in Charlestown, a section of Boston. His Boston accent and idiosyncratic mannerisms are trademarks of his stand-up act, headlining at top comedy clubs across the country, including Caronline's Comedy Club in New York City.



Saturday, January 8 8pm | \$10* Acoustic Jam Night
Hosted by Ways to Fall with Tristan Omand, The Neurotics,
Go Tell Her and Michelle & Erik Strout



Friday, January 14 8pm | \$20* Comedy featuring
Mike Dorval, James Dorsey and Tyler Boeh



Saturday, January 29 &
Saturday, February 12 8pm
Duelling Pianos \$13* (Table & Bar Seating),
\$20* (Front Row Stage Seating)



Saturday, February 19 8pm
The Jimmy Lehoux Band \$13*

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Allenstown Ground Zero 48 Allenstown Rd.	Contoocook Beech Hill Farm 107 Beech Hill Rd	Exeter Shooter’s Pub 10 Columbus Ave., 772-3856	Kingston The Kingston 1686 House Tavern 127 Main St., 642-3637 Rick’s Cafe & Grille 143 Main St., 642-3833	93 S. Maple St., 628-6813 Club Liquid 23 Amherst St., 645-7600 Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Rd, 623-2880 Don Quijote 333 Valley St., 792-1110 Element Lounge 1055 Elm St., 627-2922 Fratello’s 155 Dow Street, 624-2022 Gaucho’s Churrascaria 62 Lowell St., 669-9460 Hanover St. Chophouse 149 Hanover St., 644-2467 The Hilton Garden Inn 101 S. Commercial St., 669-2222 Ignite Bar & Grille 100 Hanover St., 494-6225 Jam Factory 1211 Elm St., 203-1458 Jewell & The Beanstalk 793 Somerville St, 624-3709 Jillian’s Billiard Club 50 Philippe Cote Drive, 626-7636 Johnny Bad’s 542 Elm St., 222-9191 J.W. Hill’s 795 Elm St., 645-7422 Lafayette Club 387 Canal St., 623-9323 Lazy Nick’s Coffee House 362 Huse Road, 232-7187 Mad Bob’s Saloon 342 Lincoln St., 669-3049 McGarvey’s 1097 Elm St., 627-2721 Milly’s Tavern 500 Commercial St., 625-4444 Moe Joe’s 2175 Candia Rd, 668-0131 Mulligan’s 424 Lake Ave., 623-6342 Murphy’s Taproom 494 Elm St., 644-3535 NH Institute of Art 148 Concord St. New England Revival Coffehouse Calvary Fellowship Church, 60 Bailey Ave., 625-9550, Olympic Lounge 506 Valley St., 644-5559 Piccola’s Upstairs Lounge 815 Elm St. Penuche’s Grill 96 Hanover St., 626-9830 Raxx Billiards 1211 Elm St., 203-1458 Rocko’s Bar & Grill 253 Wilson St., 626-5866 The Shaskeen 909 Elm St., 625-0246 Starbucks 1111 S. Willow St., 641-4839 Strange Brew Tavern 88 Market St., 666-4292 Theos 102 Elm St., 669-4678 Unwine’d 865 Second St., 625-9463 Wally and Bernie’s 20 Old Granite St., 641-2583 The Wild Rover 21 Kosciuszko St., 669-7722	Workmen’s Club 183 Douglas St. XO on Elm 827 Elm St., 206-5721 The Yard 1211 S. Mammoth Road, 623-3545 Z Food and Drink 860 Elm St.	Meredith Camp 300 DW Highway, 279-3003 Giuseppe’s Ristorante 312 DW Highway, 279-3313	Merrimack The Homestead 641 DW Highway, 429-2022 Jade Dragon 515 DW Highway, 424-2280	Milford American Legion 15 Cottage St., 673-9804 Elisha’s Restaurant 437 Nashua St., 249.9353 J’s Tavern 63 Union Sq., 249-9222 The Pasta Loft 241 Union Sq., 672-2270 Madison’s Irish Pub 586 Nashua St. Tiebreakers at Hampshire Hills 50 Emerson Road, 673-7123	Nashua The Amber Room 53 High St., 881-9060 Boston Billiard Club 55 Northeastern Blvd., 595-2121 The Bounty Holiday Inn, 9 Northeastern Blvd., 800-230-4134 Club Social 45 Pine St., 889-9838 Country Tavern 452 Amherst St., 889-5871 Estabrook Grill 57 Palm St., 943-5035 Fody’s Tavern 9 Clinton St., 577-9015 Gate City Pub 56 Canal St., 598-8256 Haluwa Lounge Nashua Mall, 883-6662 Killarney’s Irish Pub Holiday Inn, 888-1551 Lafayette Club 34 High St, 889-9860 Laureano Nightclub 245 Main St. Martha’s Exchange 185 Main St., 883-8781 Michael Timothy’s 212 Main St., 595-9334 Nashua Garden 121 Main St., 886-7363 Old Amsterdam Bar 8 Temple St., 204-5501 The Peddler’s Daughter 48 Main St., 880-8686 Penuche’s Ale House 4 Canal St., 595-9831 Pine Street Eatery 136 Pine St., 886-3501	The Polish American Club 15 School St., 889-9819 Sausage King 53 Main St., 204-5110 Shorty’s Nashua Mall, 882-4070 Simple Gifts Coffee House 58 Lowell St. 603 Lounge 14 W. Hollis St., 821-5260 The Sky Lounge 522 Amherst St., 882-6026 Slade’s Food & Spirits 4 W. Hollis St., 886-1334 Stella Blu 70 E. Pearl St., 578-5557 Sun Plaza Bar & Grille 295 DW Hwy, 888-4904 Villa Banca 194 Main St., 598-0500	New Boston Gravity Tavern 35 Mont Vernon Rd, 487-2011	Newmarket Lamprey River Tavern 110 Main St., 659-3696 KJ’s Sports Bar N. Main St., 659-2329 Stone Church 5 Granite St., 292-3546	Newton Hen House Sports Bar & Grill 85 S. Main St., 382-1705	Pelham Shooters Billiards & Lounge 116 Bridge St., 635-3577	Peterborough Harlow’s Pub 3 School St., 924-6365 Peterborough Players Theater Hadley Road	Plaistow Corner Pocket 181 Plaistow Rd., 382-3130 Dugout Grille 93 Main St., 819-4947 The Sad Café 148 Plaistow Rd,382-8893	Portsmouth American Legion Post 6 96 Islington St. Blue Mermaid Island Grill hill at Hanover and High streets, 427-2583 Daniel Street Tavern 111 Daniel St. Dolphin Striker 15 Bow St., 431-5222 Fat Belly’s 2 Bow St. 610-4337 Gas Light Co. 64 Market St., 431-9122 The Hilton Garden Inn 100 High St., 431-1499 Jitto’s Supersteak 3131 Laf��yette Rd, 436-9755 The Music Hall 104 Congress St., 433-3100	Paddy’s American Grill 27 International Dr., 430-9450 Players Ring Theater 105 Marcy St., 436-8123 Portsmouth Pearl 45 Pearl St., 431-0148, Press Room 77 Daniel St.,431-5186 The Red Door 107 State St., 373-6827 Red Hook Brewery 35 Corporate Dr., 430-8600 Ri Ra Irish Pub 22 Market Square, 319-1680 Rudi’s 20 High St., 430-7834 Rusty Hammer 49 Pleasant St., 436-9289 The Wet Bar 172 Hanover St.	Raymond Famous Legends Bar & Grill at Strikers East 4 Essex Drive Freetown Yankee Market 58 Route 27, 895-3418	Salem Black Water Grill 43 Pelham Road, 328-9013 Jocelyn’s Lounge 355 S. Broadway, 870-0045 Maggie May’s 326 S. Broadway, 893-4055 Sayde’s Restaurant 136 Cluff Crossing Rd, 890-1032 The Varsity Club 67 Main St., 898-4344	Sandown The Crossing 328 Main St.	Seabrook American Legion Post 70 169 Walton Road Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Rd, 474-6001 Honey Pot Bar & Lounge 920 Lafayette Rd, 760-2013 Prime Time Sports Grill 620 Lafayette Rd, 760-7230	Stratham Acoustic Outfitters 72 Portsmouth Ave.778-9711	Sunapee One Mile West Tavern 6 Brook Road, 863-7500 Sunapee Coffee House Methodist Church, Route 11	Tilton Lakes Region Fitness 407 W. Main St., 286-3337	Windham Jonathon’s Lounge Park Place Lanes, Route 28, 800-892-0568
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Thursday, Jan. 6 Auburn Holiday’s: Endangered Species Bedford Slammer’s: live band karaoke Candia Henderson’s: acoustic open mike Concord Green Martini: open mike w/ Steve Naylor Hermanos: Richard	Gardzina Derry Brookstone Grille: Bruce Marshall Dover Barley Pub: bluegrass jam w/ Steve Roy Brick House: DJ Kelley’s Row: DJ RJ’s: DJ J-Smooth Station House: open mike w/ Dave Nappy Band Epping Holy Grail: Matt & Howard	Gilford Patrick’s: Tony Santesse Hampstead Village Square: DJ Hudson: Johnny’s: karaoke w/ Tony Zzz Linda’s: open mike w/ Scott Barnett Laconia Cactus Jack’s: Eric Erksine Londonderry Coach Stop: Gary Lopez	Whippersnappers: Take 4 Manchester Black Brimmer: DJ Cactus Jack’s: Steve O Club 313: DJ Suga Shane, karaoke w/ CJ City Sports Grill: kara-oke w/ D Jay G The Derryfield: Charlie Christos Element: DJ Jason Johnny Bad’s: blues jam w/ Wan-Tu Blues Band Lazy Nick’s: Peter McHugh & Rhiannon Trajlinek	Strange Brew: Lisa Marie Meredith Giuseppe’s: Mary Fagan, karaoke Merrimack The Homestead: Tom Yoder Milford Pasta Loft: Brad Bosse Nashua Amsterdam: DJ Gate City Pub: karaoke	w/ DJ Bernie D Peddler’s Daughter: Minds Eye Stella Blu: Joe McDonald Studio 99: piano karaoke Newton Hen House: acoustic open mike w/ John Pora-zinski Portsmouth Jitto’s Supersteak: music and spoken word open mike w/ Elijah Clark The Page: karaoke Press Room: Chris Bur-	bank Jazz Combo Red Door: Beat Pervert Rudi’s: Steve Roy and guest Raymond Yankee Market Pub: karaoke Rochester Old Oak Tavern: open mike w/ Tony McClain Seabrook Prime Time: karaoke Windham Jonathon’s: karaoke	Friday, Jan. 7 Allenstown Ground Zero: Ground Zero House Band, Ballast, Ana Sapphira, Last Minute Seda-tive, A Kingdom Dethroned, Imagine the Escape Amherst Souhegan Christian Church: open mike w/ Music at the Ledge Bedford Slammer’s: Tom Dixon Band
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STRANGE BREW Tavern

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This Week at Strange Brew:

Thursday,
Jan. 6
**Lisa
Marie**



Friday, January 7
Racky Thomas Band



Saturday, January 8
Rhythm Method



Sunday,
Jan. 9
**Tom Keller
& John
Medeiros,
Jr.**

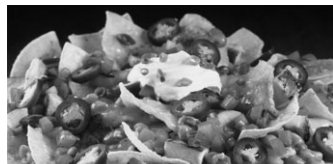


Tuesday,
Jan. 11
**Strange
Brew
All Stars**

Wednesday,
Jan. 12
**Lex &
Joe**



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NITE

On the scene



Band members of the world, unite and take over

Do you have an upcoming show? Make sure that even if the venue doesn't let us know, it gets listed in the Music This Week by sending us updates of your upcoming gigs. Send locations, dates and times for your upcoming shows to music@hippopress.com. Send information by noon on Monday to get listed for the coming week. Or send us links to your regularly updated website or MySpace page.

... or you, with a club...

Does your bar/restaurant/coffeeshop frequently host musical performances? Send the information to music@hippopress.com along with your address and phone number so we can get you into the Music This Week. And if you regularly update your website or MySpace page, you can send us those links as well. Get the information in by noon on Monday to make the coming Thursday's paper.

... and if you are a music fan...

If you're out on the scene and see a show at a location not regularly listed in the Music This Week, let us know at music@hippopress.com. Our goal is to give you the most complete live music listings in the region each and every week.

In the spotlight



Reggae night

International reggae sensation Sleepy Wonder of the Thievery Corporation will perform with Superska at Foobar, 21 Congress St. in Portsmouth, on Saturday, Jan. 8, at 8 p.m. Thievery Corporation recently wrapped up its

North and South American tour with Massive Attack, a United Kingdom-based band. Seacoast reggae group Green Lion Crew will open the show. All proceeds from the raffles will benefit the Seacoast Child Care Center. Tickets cost \$8 in advance at Foobar and \$10 at the door. The show will also be broadcast on WXGR 101.5 and online at www.wxgrfm.org.

Belmont

Top of the Town: Joe Holiday

Boscawen

Alan's: Jim Hollis

Concord

Barley House: Josh Logan Band
Green Martini: Kenny Weiland
Makris: Triple Threat
Red Blazer: George & Brian

Deerfield

Lazy Lion Cafe: Ken Weiland

Dover

Barley Pub: Jim Dozet
Brick House: Ben Levin Group, Dirty Rogers
Kelley's Row: Guilty Ones
RJ's: DJ Big Pez

Epping

Holy Grail: Karen Grenier

Exeter

Shooter's: DJ BiggZ & "D"

Gilford

Patrick's: John Eisenhart

Goffstown

Village Trestle: acoustic jam w/ John Erlman

Hampstead

Village Square: No Remorse

Hampton

Wally's Pub: Baked Naked

Hudson

Johnny's: Crazy Eighties
Linda's: Phoenix

Kingston

1686 House Tavern: Mike Belkas

Laconia

Paradise Beach Club: DJ

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Steve Tolley

Whippersnappers:
Mugsy

Manchester

Black Brimmer: Felix Brown
Cactus Jack's: Steve O
City Sports Grill: Otis Elevator Band
Club 313: DJ Bob, DJ Dave G, karaoke w/ CJ
The Derryfield: Last Kid Picked
Element: karaoke
Fratello's: Joe McDonald
Jam Factory: Kristie Kelly, Tajoura, Threadweaver, Ricky Reilly
Jillian's: Sugarfoot
Johnny Bad's: karaoke w/ DJ Rokkstar
Mulligan's: karaoke
Murphy's: Mama Kicks
Penuche's: Mike Myles
Piccola: Family Affair
Rocko's: Pangea, Aviator, Cowboys vs. Bears
Shaskeen: The Tom Ballerini Blues Band
Strange Brew: Racky Thomas

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois, DJ Holy Cow

Merrimack

The Homestead: Craig Fahey

Milford

Pasta Loft: Kelly's Heroes

Nashua

Amsterdam: DJ
Peddler's Daughter: Nimbus 9
Stella Blu: Mystics
Studio 99: Jelly in Nashua, young musicians open mike

New Boston

Gravity Tavern: Baker-street Band

Newmarket

Stone Church: Tim McCoy and the Paper-cuts, One Hand Free, Red Sky Mary

Newton

Hen House: DJ

Plaistow

The Dugout: DJ Boo
Sad Cafe: Xeno Hemiptera, A Lifelike Story, Matt McCue, Pat Weston

Portsmouth

Blue Mermaid: Andrew Merzi
Gas Light Co.: DJ Koko P
The Page: DJ
Press Room: Abbie Barrett & Band
Red Door: Press Project
MC Face of Fate w/ Ryan Obermiller
Rudi's: Duke

Raymond

Legends: Jimmy Jane

Salem

Black Water Grill: Rob Breton
Jocelyn's: DJ

Seabrook

Chop Shop: 80 mph
Honey Pot: DJ

Windham

Jonathon's: karaoke

Saturday, Jan. 8

Allenstown

Ground Zero: Ground Zero House Band

Auburn

Holiday's: Just Us

Bedford

Slammers: Trip Wire

Belmont

Top of the Town: Joe Holiday

Boscawen

Alan's: Masceo

Concord

Barley House: karaoke
Hermanos: Tim Gurshin
Pit Road Lounge: Phoenix

Deerfield

Lazy Lion Cafe: Dwight Phetteplace

Dover

Barley Pub: Super Frog
Kelley's Row: Soulmate
RJ's: DJ

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RUSTIC OVERTONES



Sunday, January 16
8:00 p.m. • \$22 • GA

ENTER THE HAGGIS



Thursday, January 20
8:00 p.m. • \$22 • RS-Theater

JOHNNY WINTER



Friday,
Jan. 21
8:00 p.m.
\$50
RS-Theater

STEVE FORBERT



Saturday,
Jan. 22
8:00 p.m.
\$22
RS-Tables

THE VELVETEEN PLAYBOYS



Thursday, January 27
8:00 p.m. • \$20 • GA

CHERYL WHEELER



Friday,
Jan. 28
8:00 p.m.
\$30
RS-Tables

SAVOY BROWN



Saturday, January 29
8:00 p.m. • \$30 • RS-Theater

THE PAT TRAVERS BAND



Saturday,
Feb. 12
8:00 p.m.
\$35
RS-Theater

KEIKO MATSUI



Sunday,
Feb. 13
7:00 p.m.
\$35
RS-Theater

THE FOOLS



Friday, February 25
8:00 p.m. • \$30 • GA

JAMES HUNTER



Saturday,
Feb. 26
8:00 p.m.
\$35/\$40
RS-Theater

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NITE

In the spotlight



Hot jazz, spicy eats

The Musicians of Wall Street Jazz Ensemble will present its annual "Jazz in January" cabaret-style show at Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., on Friday, Jan. 21, at 7 and 9 p.m. The

group features members of the music school's jazz faculty: David Tonkin, guitar; Richard Gardzina and Matt Langley, saxophones; Tom Robinson, keyboard; Don Williams, bass, and John Faggiano and Tom Gilmore, drums. Concord eatery Hermanos Cocina Mexicana will provide food and beverages for the event. Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors. Tickets are available at www.ccmusicschool.org or by calling 228-1196.

In the spotlight



Mellencamp

John Mellencamp will stop at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell, as part of his "No Better Than This" tour on Thursday, Feb. 3. The show will open at 7 p.m. with the documentary film *It's About You*, which chronicles the creation of the No Better Than This album. Tickets cost \$46.50, \$6.50, \$96.50, \$130 and \$225. Tickets may be purchased at the box office, www.lowellauditorium.com or by calling 978-454-2299.

Crew, Sleepy Wonder of Thievery Corporation, Superska
Gas Light Co.: DJ JW
The Page: DJ
Press Room: Matthew Stubbs Band
Red Door: Lord Bass
Rudi's: Dimitri & Danny Harrington

Salem
Black Water Grill:
Rob Breton

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Radio Edit

Windham
Jonathon's: karaoke

Sunday, Jan. 9
Concord

Green Martini: Masceo
Hermanos: State Street Combo
Penuche's Ale House: open mike w/ Steve Naylor

Dover
Barley Pub: Chris O'Neil & Bryan Kilough
Brick House: karaoke w/ DJ Erich Kruger
Jimmy's Sports Bar: open mike w/ Denis Patrick & The Gene Sibley Group
RJ's: DJ
Station House: karaoke

Goffstown
Village Trestle: blues jam

Hampton
Wally's Pub: Before the Crash

Kingston
Rick's Cafe & Grille: blues and rock open mike w/ Bobby Freedom

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: Lisa Guyer and Dave Stefanelli

Manchester
900 Degrees: blues open mike night w/ Tom Ballerini
Cactus Jack's: Sonic Boomers
Element: karaoke w/ DJ Sharon
Jam Factory: acoustic acts
Johnny Bad's: open mike
Mulligan's: karaoke
Shaskeen: sing-along w/ the Spain Brothers
Strange Brew: blues jam w/ Howard Randall

Meredith
Giuseppe's: open mike w/ Lou Porrazzo

Nashua
Milano's Sports Bar: karaoke w/ DJ Bernie D

Newmarket
Stone Church: acoustic open mike w/ Dave Ogden, The Wood Brothers

Portsmouth
Daniel Street Tavern: karaoke
Press Room: The Press Room Trio
Red Door: Green Lion Crew
Rudi's: jazz brunch w/ Lex and Joe

Stratham
Acoustic Outfitters: acoustic open mike w/ Ellen Carlson

Monday, Jan. 10
Candia
Henderson's: electric

rock open mike

Concord
Barley House: Dave Tonkin
Hermanos: State Street Combo
Red Blazer: open mike w/ Matt Langley

Dover
Orchard Street Chop Shop: open mike w/ Dave Ogden

Hampton
La Bec Rouge: open mike w/ Elijah Clark
Wally's Pub: DJ

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: open mike w/ Gardner Berry

Manchester
Mulligan's: live band karaoke

Meredith
Camp: acoustic open mike w/ Linden Mazurka
Giuseppe's: Lou Parrazzo

Merrimack
The Homestead: Sev

Milford
J's Tavern: acoustic open mike

Portsmouth
Press Room: Dry Martini
Red Door: Arborea, Allysen Callery

Seabrook
Honey Pot: karaoke

Windham
Jonathon's: karaoke

In the spotlight



Martin Earley

Singer-songwriter Martin Earley will take the stage at Boyton's Taproom, 155 Dow St., Manchester, on Saturday, Jan. 22, at 8 p.m. The 23-year-old Boston-based musician is no stranger to the Granite State as over the summer he won a chance to live at The Balsams in Dixville Notch for two months, to share with the world via social networking what it is like to spend a summer in northern New Hampshire. Earley, known for his original acoustic, pop and folk tunes, has performed with such acts as Reel Big Fish, Girl Talk and State Radio. He recently released his second album, *Move*. Tickets cost \$10 and may be purchased at www.boynton-staproom.com or by calling 623-7779. Doors will open at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 11
Bedford
Slammer's: karaoke w/ DJ Robyn

Concord
Barley House: traditional Irish sessions
Hermanos: Paul Donahue

Dover
Brick House: acoustic open mike w/ Anthony Vito Fiandaca
RJ's: DJ

Hampstead
Pasta Loft: acoustic open mike w/ Mike Belkas

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: video DJ

Manchester
900 Degrees: acoustic music
Black Brimmer: DJ Drew
The Derryfield: big band
Element: karaoke w/ DJ Sharon
Johnny Bad's: karaoke w/ DJ Rokkstar
Murphy's: open mike
Shaskeen: Manchuka

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois

Merrimack
The Homestead: Tony Santesse

Milford
J's Tavern: G Man from Mama Kicks

Nashua
Fody's Tavern: karaoke w/ Mark Allen
Killarney's Pub: karaoke w/ DJ Bernie D

Newmarket
Stone Church: bluegrass open mike w/ Dave Talmage

Portsmouth
Press Room: jazz jam w/ Larry Garland
Red Door: PB Kidd

Seabrook
Honey Pot: open mike

Windham
Jonathon's: karaoke

Wed., Jan. 12
Antrim
Redneck's: open mike w/ the Boogiemens

Auburn
Holiday's: karaoke w/ DJ Captain Chris

Concord
Green Martini: open mike w/ Steve Naylor
Hermanos: Jared Steer

Dover
Barley Pub: Mac Tough
Fury's: open mike w/ Paul Chase
Three Chimney's Inn: open mike

Hampton
Wally's Pub: live karaoke w/ Baked Naked

Hudson
Johnny's Pizzeria: karaoke w/ Tony Zzz

Kingston
The Carriage Towne Bar & Grille: Mike Belkas

Laconia
Cactus Jack's: Stas

Manchester
Black Brimmer: Brandon LePere
Johnny Bad's: open mike w/ David Thompson and Steven Devine
Strange Brew: Lex

Romane

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Joel Cage

Merrimack
The Homestead: Paul Luff

Milford
J's Tavern: Lisa from Mama Kicks
Pasta Loft: open mike

Nashua
603 Lounge: open mike w/ Kevin Horan
Sausage King: open mike w/ John Borlaug
Stella Blu: Gary and Dave
Studio 99: acoustic jam

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid Island Grill: open mike w/ Tom Brown and Duke Mandell
Press Room: Anthony

Fiandaca
Red Door: Red on Red w/ Evareddy
Rudi's: Dimitri

Seabrook
Chop Shop: karaoke w/ Matty R
Honey Pot: karaoke

Windham
Jonathon's: karaoke

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Friday, Jan. 7
Manchester
Boynton's: Tom Cotter, Dan Hirshon and Michael Abramson

Tuesday, Jan. 11
Manchester
Murphy's: live standup

Wednesday, Jan. 12
Manchester
Shaskeen: open mike

Thursday, Jan. 13
Nashua
Fody's Tavern: Alana Susko

Friday, Jan. 14
Manchester
Boynton's: Mike Dorval, James Dorsey and Greg Boggis

Saturday, Jan. 15
Manchester
Headliners: Chance Langton

Portsmouth
Gas Light Co.: Dave Rattigan, EJ Murphy, Mike Cote, Doug Blay and Chris D.

Tuesday, Jan. 18
Manchester
Murphy's: live standup

Wednesday, Jan. 19
Manchester
Shaskeen: open mike

Friday, Jan. 21
Manchester
Boynton's: Jim Colliton, Dan Crolin and Will Noonan

Saturday, Jan. 22
Lowell
Lowell Auditorium: Larry the Cable Guy

Manchester
Headliners: Johnny Pizzi
Tuesday, Jan. 25
Manchester
Murphy's: live standup

Wednesday, Jan. 26
Manchester
Shaskeen: open mike

Thursday, Jan. 27
Hampton
Old Salt: George Hamm and Tyler Boeh

Nashua
Fody's Tavern: Alana Susko

Friday, Jan. 28
Manchester
Boynton's: Otto & George, Sean Sullivan and special guest

Saturday, Jan. 29
Headliners: Ira Proctor

Tuesday, Feb. 1
Manchester
Murphy's: live standup

Wednesday, Feb. 2
Manchester
Shaskeen: open mike

Friday, Feb. 4
Manchester
Boynton's: Myg Kaplan, Jim Preusse and Michael Abramson

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JONESIN' CROSSWORDS

“Key Words” — played on the piano. By Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Recipe amt.
- 4 Less leafy, like a tree
- 9 Govt. group with a director
- 12 Evening, in France
- 13 “___ of Two Cities”
- 14 “I got you good on that one!”
- 15 ___ extra charge
- 16 Mail-in payment
- 18 Caught the villain, on the piano?
- 20 “The Waste Land” poet
- 21 How-___ (instruction guides)
- 22 In ___ (hurried)
- 25 Free letters in the “Wheel of Fortune” bonus round
- 27 Audrey Tautou role
- 28 Cole slaw left out in the sun, on the piano?
- 32 Pet for Harry Potter
- 35 Prince’s unpronounceable symbol, for one
- 36 Boxing match div.

- Alive” is suddenly unhip, on the piano?
- 55 Rips to shreds
- 57 Sea eagle variety
- 58 Storyline paths
- 59 Chesley “Sully” Sullenberger, for one
- 60 Dipstick wipers
- 61 Bug
- 62 Full of lip
- 63 Sault ___ Marie Canals

- 31 Annenberg/___ (non-profit behind educational programming)
- 32 “...long walk ___ short pier”
- 33 Stash stuff
- 34 Trace (to)
- 38 Substances that make paint set more quickly
- 39 Trait carriers
- 40 Gave the look to
- 41 Wheel covers
- 44 Be derisive to
- 45 “___ you glad I didn’t say ‘banana’?”
- 46 Indicates
- 48 Shade in old pictures
- 49 Rings out
- 50 Fuzzy ‘dos
- 53 Hiatuses
- 54 Court figure: abbr.
- 55 ___ chi
- 56 Mess up

Down

- 1 Wrecks (a car)
- 2 Encouragement to a vocalist
- 3 Woods’ field
- 4 Shakespeare, for one
- 5 Troubled
- 6 Filmdom’s “one man army”
- 7 Sewing machine inventor Howe
- 8 Like some generals: abbr.
- 9 2000s wireless company
- 10 Ltd., in the States
- 11 Mellow
- 12 Swashbuckler’s sword

- 37 Make a pop star eat the meat dress she wore, on the piano?
- 42 Person with phobias
- 43 Roots expose it
- 47 Combine
- 48 Getaway spot
- 51 Winter month, in Mexico
- 52 “Stayin’

12/30



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All quotes are from *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, by Zora Neale Hurston, born Jan. 7, 1903.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan 19) “Ships at a distance have every man’s wish on board. For some they come in with the tide. For others they sail forever on the horizon, never out of sight, never landing until the Watcher turns his eyes away in resignation....” Try not to confuse wishes with reality.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) “She felt an answer seeking her, but where? When? How?” Think carefully about what the question really means before you blindly accept an answer.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) “Janie had had no chance to know things, so she had to ask. Did marriage end the cosmic loneliness of the unmated? Did marriage compel love like the sun the day?” No, and no. Next?

Aries (March 21 – April 19) “Her old thoughts were going to come in handy now, but new words would have to be made and said to fit them.” It’s time to brush up on your vocabulary.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) “She got up without a word and

went off for the shoes. A little war of defense for helpless things. She wanted to fight about it.” Defend the helpless.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) “She had an inside and an outside now and suddenly she knew how not to mix them.” It’s all about boundaries right now.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) “A big laugh started off in the store but people got to thinking and stopped. It was funny if you looked at it right quick, but it got pitiful if you thought about it awhile.” Watch out for impulsive reactions. Further reflection is apt to change your mind.

Leo (July 23 – Aug 22) “Why must Joe be so mad with her for making him look small when he did it to her all the time?” Ask yourself whether your actions are making other people feel small.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) “It was all according to the way you see things. Some people could look at a mud-puddle and see an ocean with ships.” A new perspective will help you make progress in solving a vexing problem.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) “She had been getting ready for her great journey to the horizons in search of people; it was important to all the world that

she should find them and they find her. But she had been whipped like a cur dog, and run off down a back road after things.” You may have been distracted by material goods. Refocus your thoughts to pay attention to your fellow human beings.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21) “She rather found herself angry at imaginary people who might try to criticize. Let the old hypocrites learn to mind their own business, and leave other folks alone.” Save your anger for actual things that other actual people have actually done. Try not to be defensive.

SIGNS OF LIFE

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21) “Some came limping in with their shoes and sore feet from walking. It’s hard trying to follow your shoe instead of your shoe following you.” Take good care of your shoes. And your feet.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	8	2			9		5	7
7							8	
	1							
1	3	9				8		
				8				
		4				1	2	6
							9	
	4							8
2	7		6			3	4	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/06

SU DO KU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Last week's puzzle answers are below

12/30

6	3	1	9	8	2	4	5	7
5	2	4	6	3	7	9	8	1
7	8	9	1	5	4	2	3	6
9	4	7	5	6	8	3	1	2
8	6	2	3	4	1	5	7	9
3	1	5	7	2	9	8	6	4
4	5	3	2	1	6	7	9	8
1	7	8	4	9	3	6	2	5
2	9	6	8	7	5	1	4	3

Difficulty Level ★★★ 12/30



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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

Here Today...

Biologists Studying Rare Species Have to Be Quick: Researchers learned from reports in early 2010 of a new monkey species in Myanmar, with a nose so recessed that it habitually collects rain-fall and constantly sneezes. However, according to an October National Geographic dispatch, by the time scientists arrived to investigate, natives had eaten the monkey. (The sneezing makes them easy for hunters to detect.) (Researchers studying a rare species of Vietnamese lizard had an easier time in November. After learning of the species and rushing to Ba Ria-Vung Tau province, a two-man team from La Sierra University in Riverside, Calif., found the lizards being routinely served in several restaurants' lunch buffets.)

Can't Possibly Be True

• Parents of the 450 pupils (aged 3 to 11) at Applecroft primary school in Welwyn Garden City, England, were given individualized yearbooks recently with all the children's faces obscured by black bars over the eyes (except for photos of the recipient's own children, which had no obstructions). The precautions (described by one parent as "creepy," like kids were "prisoner(s)") were ordered by headmistress Vicky Parsley, who feared that clear photos of children would inevitably wind up in child pornography. Last year, Parsley famously prohibited parents from taking photographs during school plays — of their kids or any others — for the same fear.

• Among the few commercially successful enterprises in North Korea is its General Federation of Science and Technology's video game unit, which has produced such popular programs as a bowling game based on the American cult classic movie *The Big Lebowski*, and another based on the *Men in Black* film series. Bloomberg News revealed in September that a major international partner of the federation's marketing arm Nosotek is the News Corporation — the umbrella company of Rupert Murdoch's vast enterprises that include the conservative Fox News (which is generally provocative toward the North Korean government).

• Joy of Democracy! (1) The women's group Femen is growing in popularity in Ukraine (according to a November Reuters dispatch), helped in large part by its members' willingness, during the group's ubiquitous street protests, to remove their tops. (2) The Socialist Party in Spain's Catalonia region offered an election video in November on the joy of voting, in which an attractive, increasingly excited woman simulates an orgasm as she fills out her ballot, climaxing at the moment she drops it into the slot. (3) The nativist Danish People's Party called in November for an anti-immigration film that featured bare-breasted women sunbathing, as one way to convince religious fundamentalists abroad not to immigrate to Denmark.

Inexplicable

• Nicholas Hodge, 31, was arrested in Winona County, Minn., in November after he entered the home of an acquaintance at 2:40 a.m. and refused to leave, complaining that a person who lived there owed him something. According to the deputy's report, Hodge was cuffed while sitting on a toilet "in the kitchen." The deputy added, "I'm not sure why they had a toilet in the kitchen."

• "Sex strikes" (the withholding of favors) are employed from time to time, especially in underdeveloped countries, to influence political

leaders' decisions. However, these almost always appear in patriarchies in which females have little influence beyond the power of sexual denial. In December, Stanley Kalembaye of Uganda's National Resistance Movement, battling to unseat the ruling party, publicly called for the nation's men to withhold sex from their wives unless the wives promise to vote for the Resistance.

Unclear on the Concept

• In November, outgoing Florida Gov. Charlie Crist initiated pardon proceedings (granted in December) excusing now-deceased singer Jim Morrison of The Doors for his 1969 indecent-exposure conviction in Miami Beach. However, Crist has ignored petitions from still-living, still-incarcerated convicts who almost certainly suffered unfair prosecutions. Orlando Sentinel crusader Scott Maxwell has reported on several dozen people convicted in part by trainer Bill Preston's dogs, who supposedly tracked crime-scene scents through water and other obstacles, sometimes months later and despite much site contamination, directly to the defendant on trial. Judge after judge permitted Preston's "expert" testimony until one demanded a live courtroom test, which Preston's dog utterly failed. In 2009 two convicts were released after DNA tests proved the dog's sniffs were erroneous, but as many as 60 similar convictions still stand.

• News That Sounds Like a Joke: The good news for investigators covering the November shooting of a 53-year-old man in Fort Bend County, Texas, is that there were several witnesses who helped an artist sketch the shooter's face. The bad news was that the shooter was wearing a full-face "Halloween" mask the whole time. Nonetheless, the sketch of a man's head, with the face fully covered by the indistinct mask, was distributed to the media by the Fort Bend Sheriff's Office.

• Glenn Crawley, 55, who describes himself as a "man of the water," flipped his catamaran off the coast of Newquay, England, in September for the 13th time and had to be rescued, running the costs of attending to his miscues

to the equivalent of nearly \$50,000. Although officials have pleaded with him to give up sailing (terming him "Captain Calamity"), Crawley said: "I do what no one else is doing. So I'd appreciate it if people would get off my case and give me some support."

Least Competent Criminals

Not Ready for Prime Time: (1) Bonnie Usher, 43, was arrested in Manchester, N.H., in November and charged with robbing a Rite Aid pharmacy after being spotted in her car fleeing the store's parking lot. The robber's easy-to-remember license plate: "B-USHER." (2) Walter Allen Jr. was arrested in Houston in November after attempting to purchase two Bentley cars at the Post Oak Motor Cars company. Allen, using his own driver's license, presented a check for \$500,000 from the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta (which was, of course, bogus since the Federal Reserve does not bank with checks).

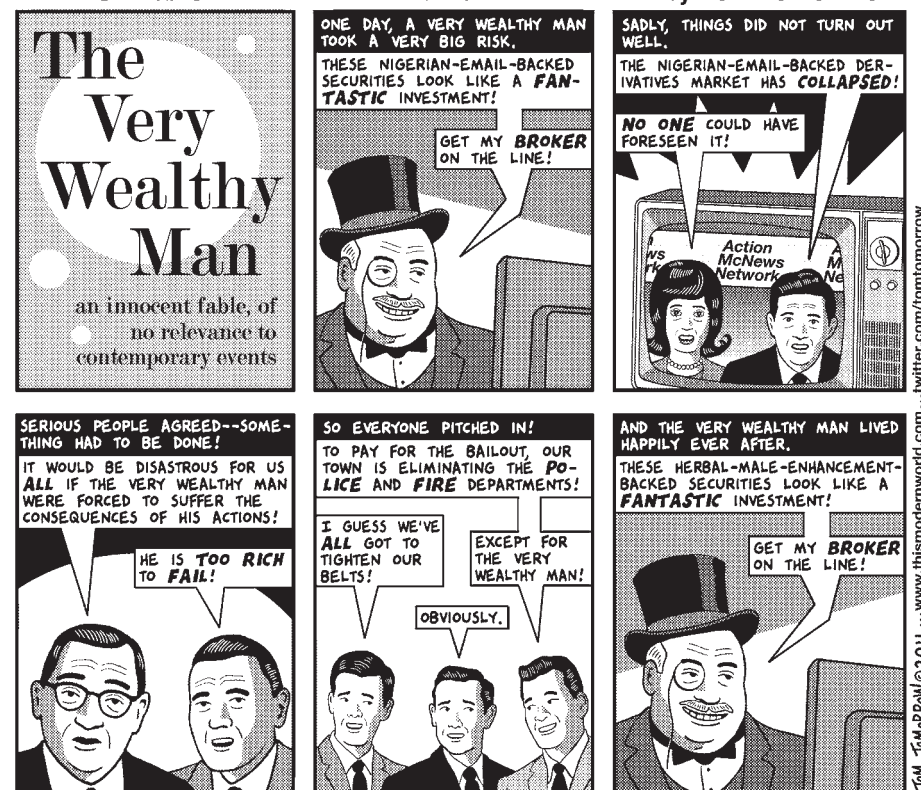
The Jesus and Mary World Tour (all-new)

Recent Playdates: Mary, on a barbershop wall in Bakersfield, Calif. (Finder's reaction: "like a miracle, actually") (November). Jesus in an MRI image in Greer, S.C. ("I don't care what anybody else thinks") (October). Jesus in a cherry tree limb in Midway, N.C. ("(A)m I nuts or not, I don't know") (October). Jesus in a chicken's feathers in Rowley Regis, England (Mom pointed out the "ring of thorns"). Jesus on a stone in the road in Granbury, Texas ("(E)ven the rocks will cry out," Luke 19:40) (July). Jesus on a lifeguard flag in Candia, N.H. (July). Mary on spilled baby lotion in Riohacha, Colombia (July). The final date on the tour is now set for May 21, 2011, according to evangelist Harold Camping, who in July told his followers to prepare.

Are you ready for News of the Weird Pro Edition? Every Monday at <http://NewsOfTheWeird.blogspot.com> and www.WeirdUniverse.net. Other handy addresses: WeirdNews@earthlink.net, <http://www.NewsOfTheWeird.com>, and P.O. Box 18737, Tampa FL 33679.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



User's guide to The Hippo

Need some help to navigate the Hippo? Here is the contact information to fulfill all your Hippo needs:

Press releases

Send press releases (that include time, dates and location of the event plus contact information for the public and, if different, contact information for our reporters) to news@hippopress.com.

That is a general mail box. To reach reporters with specific sections of the paper:

- **Arts** — Send information on exhibits, theatrical productions, classical music events, art and theater classes and auditions to Adam Coughlin at arts@hippopress.com. You can also reach him by phone at 625-1855 ext. 12.
- **Books** — Send information on book-related events (including author events, book clubs, poetry events and more) to Books Editor Lisa Parsons at lparsons@hippopress.com. Books submitted for review will not be returned. Books can be submitted for review or mention to Lisa Parsons, The Hippo, 49 Hollis St., Manchester, NH, 03104. Books submitted will be considered for review but are not guaranteed review or mention.
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- **Music** — Send information on upcoming live music performances, bands, new CD releases, comedy nights, DJs and karaoke nights, nightlife events and concert series to music@hippopress.com.
- **News** — Send information about new businesses, political events and other items intended for the news section to jmucciarone@hippopress.com. You can also reach him at 625-1855 ext. 36.

Not sure who to send it to? You can also contact editor Amy Diaz at adiaz@hippopress.com or call 625-1855 ext. 29.

Letters to the Editor

Send letters to the editor to news@hippopress.com. Include your name, address and phone number for verification. Letters will be edited for size and will appear in our occasional comments section.

General submissions

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